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Britain behind Germany

Britain's system of training people for skills is failing the needs of modern industry and holding back economic growth, according to an authoritative new study. The conclusion is made on the basis of a detailed comparison with the system in West Germany.

Only 30 per cent of British workers have vocational qualifications at an intermediate level (excluding university degrees) such as apprenticeships or City and Guilds certificates, compared with 60 per cent of German workers. Even when degrees are included, two-thirds of the British labour force have no vocational qualifications whatever compared with a third in West Germany.

This huge discrepancy is reflected in virtually every branch of industry. With the single exception of professional and scientific services, German industry employs more or less double the proportion of qualified workers.

Arab acrimony as summit fails

Bitterness and anger characterized Arab reaction to the collapse of the summit in Fez. Israel gloated at the unreserved defeat for Saudi attempts to rally the Middle East behind Crown Prince Fahd's eight peace proposals. The debacle further polarizes the pro-Western and pro-Soviet Arab camps Back page

Laker forecasts a £15m profit

Sir Freddie Laker's beleaguered airline is heading for a £15m profit in the next financial year, it was announced yesterday. Airlines generally, after the worst slump for years, are "turning the corner". Sir Freddie said at the opening of a new Laker sales outlet in Glasgow.

Private armies condemned

The creation of self appointed armies in Northern Ireland was attacked by Mr Jack Hermon, Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary. He said that they were a threat to the fabric of society and would not be allowed to usurp the authority of the police or the Army Page 2

55 years' jail for drugs gang

Thirteen men involved in Britain's biggest cannabis smuggling gang were jailed at the Central Criminal Court for a total of 55 years and fined more than £675,000. The gang was broken by police and customs in an investigation codenamed Operation Cyril Page 4

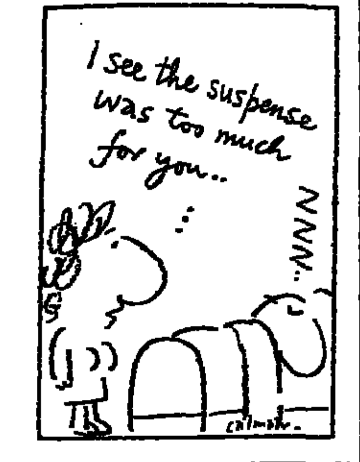
Begin breaks leg in fall

Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, fractured his left thigh in a fall in his Jerusalem residence. He underwent surgery and a hospital official said Mr Begin, who is 68, would recover after a few weeks in hospital

Sinai ultimatum, page 8

Russia puts up energy prices

The Soviet Union has announced rises in the wholesale prices of fuel and raw materials from January 1. Shop prices are not immediately affected. The announcement was made during the interval of an important ice hockey match.



SDP wins first parliamentary election

Williams topples Tory 19,000 majority in victory at Crosby

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Mrs Shirley Williams, the Social Democrat and Liberal Alliance candidate, was declared the winner of the Crosby by-election early this morning after a campaign which destroyed a Conservative majority of more than 19,000.

Mrs Williams's triumphant return to the Commons, two and a half years after her defeat at Hertford and Stevenage in the 1979 general election, confirmed the evidence of past parliamentary and local by-elections that the Social Democrats and the Liberals in combination have now established themselves as a menace to both the other major parties in almost every corner of the land.

For the Conservative, Mr John Butcher, a 39-year-old accountant, the achievement of being selected three weeks ago from a field of 180 to inherit an apparently gilt-edged seat, turned last night to disaster. But since he campaigned squarely on the Government's record, with total loyalty to his party leadership, Mr Butcher has the consolation of knowing that his humiliation is shared by the entire Government.

The Labour Party, by selecting an inexperienced and far-left candidate for a middle-class constituency, ensured that they would slip from second place in 1979 to a weak third place. Their man, Mr John Backhouse, a 28-year-old teacher of mathematics, campaigned unswervingly on policies laid down by the Labour Party conference. So his failure, like Mr Butcher's, represents a rejection by hitherto loyal supporters of his party's present course.

In both Conservative and Labour ranks at Westminster there are MPs already preparing to use the Crosby result to put new pressure upon the two party leaders—on Mrs Margaret Thatcher to relax Treasury policies and on Mr Michael Foot to secure unity between Labour's left and right.

Mrs Williams, who was Secretary of State for Education and Science in the last Labour Government, becomes the Social Democrats' 24th MP, and the first to sit in Parliament without the reproach that she was elected in another party's colours. The SDP now have three former Labour Cabinet Ministers in the Commons.

CROSBY RESULT	
Williams, S (L-SDP)	28,118
Butcher, J. (C)	22,829
Backhouse, J. (Lab)	5,450
Boaks, W. (White resident)	36
Keen, T. (C-L All.)	99
Kennedy, J. (Middx Poly student)	31
Potter, D. (Humanitarian)	31
Small, R. (Ecology)	480
F'Tang, T. (Cambridge Univ Raving Loony Soc)	223
Majority	5,289

General election: Page, R. G. (C), 34,768; Mulhearn, A. (Lab), 15,496; Hill, A. (L), 9,302; Hussey, P. (Ecology), 1,489. Majority 19,272.

Her presence there must strengthen her chances of winning the leadership of the SDP once a mechanism for choosing a leader is ready and working. But that decision is not expected before next autumn and before then Mrs William's chief rival, Mr Roy Jenkins, must have an excellent chance of winning the next by-election wherever it may fall, on the present strong pro-Alliance tide.

Mr Jenkins, who came near to winning the Warrington by-election in July on ground as unfavourable as Crosby, is now the only member of the four founders of the SDP, launched as recently as last March, who has no seat in Parliament.

Mrs Williams's achievement is the second success at a parliamentary by-election for the electoral alliance of the SDP and the Liberals, which was sealed at the two parties' conferences in September and October. Mr William Pitt, standing as Liberal Alliance candidate with SDP support, took the marginal seat of Croydon North West from the Conservatives five weeks ago.

The Alliance campaign in Crosby as elsewhere was aimed at the two-party system, the allegedly extreme politics of Labour and Conservatives, the polarizing of attitudes in Parliament. Mrs Williams told the voters that Labour was in turmoil and that the moderates in her old party were lost. But her main assault from the first was on the Government. She told Crosby voters that a victory for her would force the Government to change policies which had led, she said, to high unemployment and inflation and to low output.

Whether or not they believed her, both faithless Conservatives and despairing Labour voters yesterday combined to support the most experienced and evidently the most appealing candidate.

Crosby voters, from today a famous species, will be rewarded by having their motives minutely analysed in the next weeks and months.

The Social Democrats and their Liberal allies are not flattered by suggestions that this was a protest vote. But conversations with electors on the doorsteps of Crosby this past week were full of protest. They may have been confused about the policies which Mrs Williams was proclaiming.

Opinion polls taken in the Crosby constituency over the past month, by three different organizations, have consistently shown Mrs Williams well in the lead, ahead of the Conservatives, with Labour third.

Market and Opinion Research International (MORI) polling between October 23 and 27, about ten days before the election date was announced, showed Mrs Williams with the support of 40 per cent of those prepared to say how they would vote.

MORI'S final survey, concluded for the Daily Star on the eve of poll, showed Mrs Williams with 49 per cent; Mr Butcher 36 per cent; Mr Backhouse 11 per cent. Mr Robert Worcester of MORI estimated a probable turnout of 66 per cent, and forecast a majority of 6,000 to 7,000 for the Alliance.

NOP in the Daily Mail, on the strength of interviews conducted 24 hours earlier, reported figures of: Williams, 50 per cent; Butcher, 35 per cent; Backhouse, 14 per cent. They said this represented a majority of 7,000 to 8,00 if turnout was 65 per cent, and up to 8,500 with a 70 per cent turnout. The SDP voters, page 5

Frank Johnson reports from the SDP HQ

On a high—and kissing the BBC

In the dark outside, the voters of Crosby were still voting. Inside the Social Democratic Party's makeshift campaign headquarters, Mrs Shirley Williams was scurrying across the bare floorboards and swerving round the trestle tables, kissing people.

She darted in and out of the rooms and across the landings. Telephones rang. Canvassers clumped up and down the stairs calling out items of information about various triumphs at specific polling stations, like field officers in mid-battle hurrying back to base with word of the enemy routed

A man from the BBC arrived with the latest word from the Corporation's computer, which, like Mrs Williams, was staying in the Blundellsands Hotel. Telephone crooked in her shoulder, Mrs Williams interrupted a call and asked him: "Is it true that I've won?".

All day long, well-bred girls in the employ of the BBC had been standing outside polling stations asking how people had voted and for whom they had voted at previous elections.

"Yes, you've won", the BBC man said. He got a kiss. She already knew she had won. But she obviously liked being told it by successive visitors.

"She's on a high", one of the campaign staff explained. She resumed chattering down the telephone. She was talking to Archbishop Worlock of Liverpool—a cleric, one suspects, of impeccably social democratic sympathies. Someone muttered something about the archbishop at the other end conducting the conversation on his knees.

Mrs Williams eventually disappeared to visit St Joseph's Hospice with the actor, Sir Richard Attenborough, a social democrat. The computer had reached its broad decision by midday. It only remained for the voters to take the precaution of completing the voting.

By nightfall a decent enough interval had elapsed to make it seemly to call at Conservative headquarters. There was a mood of polite gloom. Those admirable Tory ladies in Fair Isle jumpers carried on moving lists of voters around on long tables but there were not as many people in the building as at SDP headquarters. It was raining heavily outside. That added a further touch of melancholy.

The central office professionals continued to go about their business with clipboards. But they too knew the word from the computer. "We're moving phantom armies around at the moment", one of them said, with a glance at those voters' names being sorted by the ladies. It was rather like a general staff HQ, instructing divisions which had either been annihilated or had gone over to the enemy.

Some satisfaction was expressed about indications from Tory tellers at the polling stations that Mrs Williams had cut into the Labour vote proportionally more than the Conservative vote. This was taken as a sign of hope for the seat next time.

Thoughts turned to the candidate, Mr Butcher. One inquired: "How is he, er . . er, taking it?" It is the sort of silly question which you do ask at a time like this. The conversation took on the tone of one between a doctor and a sympathetic relative. "He has . . . er . . . accepted it", the central office man replied. The elderly ladies, the rain, and the near-deserted room gave the exchange an added air of the macabre. It was difficult to believe that all we were talking about was an election.

The lesson of Crosby

Roy Hattersley assesses the significance of the Alliance victory

The conventional explanation concerns the traditional behaviour of mid-term by-election voters. If Labour and Conservative parties are simply looking for comfort, they can find it by comparing last night's swing to the SDP with the great Liberal victories of the 'sixties and 'seventies. "Remember Orpington!" is still a battlecry. But it is now used by the rearguard of the retreating major parties, not by David Steel's irregulars sniping at the big battalions.

The battlecry has some justification. Every by-election is influenced by the special passions of the moment and the emotions that encouraged the burghers of Crosby to rally around Shirley Williams' standard will not wash over all the country when the general election comes. By-elections are more about personalities than policies. In Crosby, the SDP won the personality race but barely deigned to compete in the policy competition.

When the general election comes Mrs Williams will not be cut up into 600 pieces and spread lightly over every constituency. And at least some newspapers will feel an occasional duty to print pictures of other candidates. Labour and Conservative will unite in their gratitude for that. Acknowledging Mrs Williams' extraordinary ability to walk spotless through the minefield of party politics requires neither graciousness nor chivalry. It is a simple fact.

However, all the special factors having been taken into account and the precedents having been properly observed, it is not even sensible to pretend that Crosby can be written off as a future footnote in David Butler's guide to the next general election. A single result might justify such an interpretation. Added to Warrington, Croydon, and enough local government by-elections to fill a council chamber, Crosby emphasizes how much the SDP/Liberal alliance menaces both Socialist and Tory.

The alliance is largely the product of the other parties' behaviour. Although it will prove more difficult to destroy than to create, it remains essentially dependent not on its own performance but on the conduct of its opponents. It is the child of disenchantment and disenchantment is not a political philosophy around which an election manifesto can be written.

The signs are that the message is seeping in. Labour, at least, has begun to speak again to its supporters rather than talk only to the most vociferous of its members. Of course there are many battles to be fought before the lesson of Crosby is turned to our full advantage. But Mrs Williams' presence in the House of Commons will be a constant reminder as well as reproach. Her victory may well be the greatest service she has rendered the Labour Party.

The triumph of Shirley Williams: a victory born of dismay, fear and disbelief.

Axe on dole and rents but not on students

By Julian Haviland and Philip Webster

The Cabinet yesterday completed its four-month review of next year's public expenditure by agreeing that provision for 1982-83 must be allowed to rise by nearly £5,000m above the figure of £110,000m provided for in estimates published last March.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, standing in for the Prime Minister in the Commons, confirmed that Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will make a statement to the House next week.

With most of the battles between the Treasury and the spending departments resolved in Cabinet committees, yesterday's two-hour 40 minute meeting seems to have gone smoothly enough, with the Treasury team resigned to the fact that it had failed to secure anything like its revised target for savings in next year's programmes. One participant even described the proceedings as "jolly".

Extra bids from the departments, and revised estimates of inflation, would have required £7,000m in extra provision, of which the Treasury at first hoped to claw back more than half. In the end it has had to be satisfied with "cuts" of no more than £2,000m.

The outcome, though foreseen, had greatly heartened liberal Conservatives who have argued for months that the unexpected depth of the recession required upward revision of the Government's spending targets.

They were specially pleased last night by a last defeat in Cabinet by the spenders over the savers. The proposal to end the minimum maintenance grant for students, set at £410 in the current year, was thrown out. That cut had been offered by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, seized on by the Treasury and endorsed by a Cabinet committee chaired by the Prime Minister.

The liberals in the Cabinet were less happy about the decision, agreed with some reluctance, to cut the real value of unemployment benefits. It is believed that next year's increase will be lower by 2 percentage points than the rise in the rate of inflation.

The decision has angered some Conservative backbenchers who have said that they will oppose it.

The Cabinet also agreed that extra revenue would have to be raised by further increases in some prescription charges, and by putting up council rents by between £2.50 and £3 a week.

The Chancellor will also announce next week the Cabinet's agreement to larger than usual increases in National Insurance employee contributions. It is believed that the decision is to raise them by as much as 1.5 per cent.

In a separate announcement the Government is expected to announce a big increase in the television licence fee. The BBC has been pressing for an increase in the colour television fee from £34 to £50 a year.

☐ Defence escaped lightly in the cuts and is expected to be allowed significantly more money next year than originally provided for (David Blake, our Economics Editor, writes).

There is considerable anger in the Treasury about the way in which the defence department got its way. Treasury officials have been examining defence claims that the equipment which it buys is going up in price more rapidly than the general rate of inflation. They say that they have found no evidence to support that.

A new effort to cut back defence spending is likely in the review next year. Because of defence spending other programmes, such as nationalized industry investment, have been reined in.

The Chancellor's announcement next week will probably indicate that the Government wants to keep public borrowing next year down to a lower proportion of total national output than it has been this year.

Schmidt and Mitterrand give Britain budget hope

By Ian Murray and Peter Norman

Britain could emerge from the current European Summit meeting at Lancaster House in London with an agreement in principle for further medium term aid to help its budgetary problems. But in return it would be expected by some countries to make considerable concessions in its tough stand to cut agricultural spending.

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, showed he was well aware of Mrs Thatcher's domestic political problems when he suggested that help on the budget should last for three years. This, he said, would be long enough to ensure that the European Budget did not turn into a British general election issue.

President Mitterrand gave a pretty clear indication that he would be prepared for France to share some of the cost of keeping Britain's budget contributions down by taking over some of the burden, currently borne reluctantly by West Germany.

Any such deal as far as France was concerned would, however, be possible only in the medium term and then only on a decreasing scale. He rejected the idea that any country could expect a full return from its contributions and added that Britain could not claim what it paid to the budget was unacceptable even if it might be excessive.

Mrs Thatcher's incisive chairmanship of the meeting "immensely pleased" Herr Schmidt, who said he was particularly impressed by her ability to translate officialese into comprehensible language. He nevertheless refused to be pinned down in detail on any agricultural question until he was presented with documents that he could understand.

Weary officials, who have already spent three months preparing the documents for this meeting, were accordingly despatched after the first session to draw up yet another set of papers for presentation to the summit. The original documents had been so complex that the first draft was nicknamed "the monster".

Mr Andries van Agt, the Dutch Prime Minister, was pessimistic about the chances of an eventual successful compromise agreement.

For its part, France will be leading the countries who are expecting Britain to make concessions over agricultural policy.

Photograph, page 3
David Watt, page 14
Leading article, page 15

Duke urges improved housing aid

By Hugh Clayton

The Duke of Edinburgh called yesterday for a change in housing policy so that public subsidies were aimed more at lower-paid householders. "Home ownership has been placed in a highly-privileged position," he said, "it represents the best private investment available".

The Duke, who is president of the environment committee of the Royal Society of Arts, gave a robust and often impish speech at a conference about rural housing organized by the society in London.

"I think we want to think again about the application of subsidies so as to arrive at a lower cost for the people who need it," he told an audience which included Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction. The Duke chaired the conference, which was called to debate a report issued by a working party of which he is also chairman.

According to the Department of the Environment the cost to the Exchequer last year of tax relief on mortgages and subsidies to homebuyers who pay little or no tax was £2,195m. There are about 5,500,000 homebuyers and the average subsidy to each is £399 a year (Lorna Bourke writes).

The total cost of subsidies, rent rebates and housing benefits to the 6,700,000 council house tenants was £2,465m. The average subsidy to each is an estimated £367 a year.

Seychelles coup attempt is foiled

Victoria, Seychelles, Nov 26.—Seychelles troops have repulsed an attack by foreign mercenaries at the international airport of the Indian Ocean islands and mopping-up operations are still under way, the Government said tonight.

In the first detailed account of the attack, a Defence Ministry communiqué said 45 mercenaries were involved. Earlier reports put the figure at more than 100. The communiqué said the attackers, armed with rocket-propelled grenades, rocket launchers, hand grenades and submachine guns, had taken about 100 people hostage before seizing control of the terminal building at Pointe Larue international airport, 10 miles from the capital, Victoria.

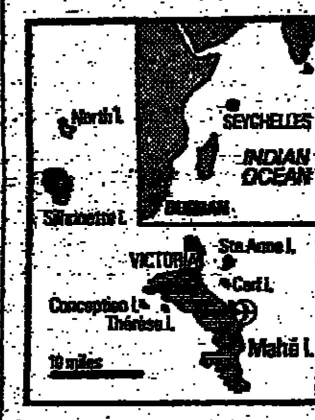
They also took over the cargo terminal and control tower in their attack, which began at 5.30 pm yesterday, the government statement said.

"After very heavy fighting at the cost of very few casualties, the defence forces, which included the police force and the people's militia, succeeded in dislodging the mercenaries and regaining full control of the airport. The Seychelles people's defence forces are continuing mopping-up operations".

The communiqué said the attackers arrived aboard a scheduled Royal Swazi Airlines flight from Manzini, capital of Swaziland.

"Those mercenaries who were not killed or captured, or who had not fled back to the safety of South Africa by hijacking an Air India Boeing 707, have fled into the hills around the airport," the statement said.

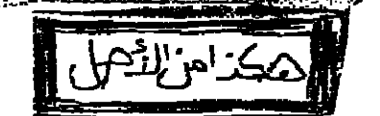
It also said that only a few of the mercenaries had managed to force their way aboard the Air India jet after "tricking it into landing," but this account conflicted with reports from Durban, where the hijacked Boeing landed early today.—Reuter.



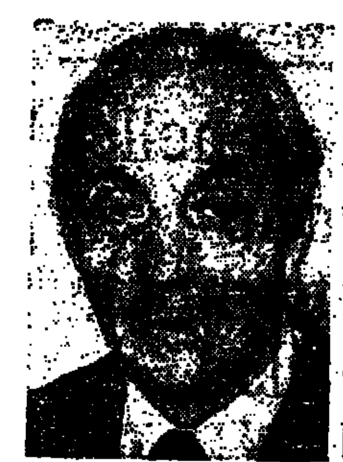
☐ Johannesburg: More than 40 men, some of whom are South Africans, are in custody in Pretoria tonight after the failed coup attempt (Michael Hornsby writes)

When it became clear that they were outgunned, the mercenaries made their escape by commandeering the Air India jet which was in the Seychelles with its 65 passengers and 14 crew for refuelling during a flight to Bombay from Salisbury, the capital of Zimbabwe.

Continued on back page, col 3



NEWS IN SUMMARY



Mr Brown: Certain to start talks with SDP.

London MP quits

Mr Ronald Brown, Labour MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch, last night announced that he was leaving the Labour Party after 45 years because it had become "an adjunct of the Communist Party" (Anthony Bevans, our Political Correspondent, writes).

He told a meeting of his constituency general management committee that he found it impossible to continue as a Labour Party member because of his total opposition to the leftward drift of Party policy, and because of the infiltration of the party by Communists and Trotskyites.

Mr Brown, who entered Parliament in 1964, is the brother of Lord George-Brown, the former Labour Foreign Secretary who has joined the Social Democratic Party. Mr Brown told the committee that he was "almost certain" to start talks with the SDP.

It was known for months at Westminster that Mr Brown was extremely distressed about the state of the Labour Party, particularly in London. As a member of the executive of the Greater London Labour Party, he saw at first hand the effects of the concerted left-wing takeover.

His own local party has not yet been made the target for takeover, and there was no doubt that Mr Brown would have been reselected as Labour candidate for the next election.

But he felt that he could not put his name forward for reselection on the basis of policy which he did not support. He had not been elected in 1979 on a manifesto which called for unilateral nuclear disarmament or withdrawal from the EEC. The Labour Party had changed; he could not, he said.

Cut-off home gets a torch

A mother with a daughter, aged two who had their electricity supply cut off because she owed nearly £400 was given £6 by the Department of Health and Social Security to buy a torch, when she went there for help, Leeds magistrates' court was told yesterday.

Mrs Karen Lesley Speight, aged 21, of Cedar Road, Leeds, pleaded guilty to dishonestly using electricity. She was given a conditional discharge for 12 months. Mrs Speight, who reconnected the supply, told police: "I have a little girl and I need hot water and the light."

Marks to face new trial

Dennis Howard Marks, aged 36, the former MI6 spy cleared last week of heading a £20m international drug smuggling operation, is to face trial in the New Year on other drug charges, it was stated yesterday.

Mr Alan Suckling, said for the prosecution at the Central Court yesterday that the Director of Public Prosecutions had decided to go ahead with another trial relating to alleged drug offences by Marks in 1973.

Triple murder hunt

Police were hunting yesterday for the killer of three gypsies who were found dead in their caravans near Wellingborough, Northamptonshire. Mr Sid Hickling, and Susan Ovens, both aged 27, and Adolphus Smith, aged 57, had been shot.

Paisley's 'army' condemned by RUC and UDA

From Christopher Thomas, Belfast

Mr Jack Hermon, Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, said last night that the fabric of society in Northern Ireland was threatened by self-appointed armies.

In one of his toughest statements he said: "No republican or loyalist paramilitary organization or any private force acting outside the law will be permitted to usurp the authority of the police or Army."

The new "Third Force, which gives the Rev Ian Paisley a paramilitary machine to add to his church and political movement, seems to be successfully developing in border areas and night-time vigilante patrols have begun. Guns, however, have not been produced and Mr Paisley continues to insist that his organization will keep within the law.

But Mr Hermon, who did not mention the Third Force by name, said the role of self-appointed armies was "to seize power and dictate to the people not only what they should do or should not do, but whether they should live or die. It therefore behoves everyone who values freedom to be alive to that danger and to support the forces of law and order. If they do not, they may one day discover to their cost that it is too late."

The Third Force is operating mainly in border areas where members of the security forces are particularly vulnerable to IRA attacks.

The Protestant Paramilitary group seem united in their animosity to Mr Paisley, whose campaign has almost certainly boosted the republican cause in the United States

A senior leader of the Ulster Defence Association said: "If it is a choice between a united Ireland or living under the rule of Paisley, I think most of us would opt for a united Ireland.

Mr Hermon's statement came as the Third Force denied that it was behind a Protestant paramilitary show of strength on Tuesday night in Dudblin, during which one of its leaders said off-duty members of the security forces were involved.

However, the denial is being treated with some scepticism. There is an intensive effort by the organization's leaders to dispel the possibility that policemen or UDR soldiers might be members.

Mr Hermon said the RUC would not and could not be directed by factional groups or political pressures, from whatever direction.

"Now is the time for this community to hold on to its commensense and not to put in danger the democratic values which we cherish. Be assured that the police and the Army will fight terrorism until terrorism is finished. I say to the terrorists, you will not win. You will not be allowed to win."

□ Mr Nicholas Winterton, Conservative MP for Macclesfield, was sharply criticized last night by colleagues after an outspoken lunchtime speech in which he called for the resignation of Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Addressing the University College of London Conservative Association, Mr Winterton accused Mr Prior of crass ineptitude and blatant incompetence, and said that Mrs Thatcher, in appointing him, had done a grave disservice, injustice and insult to the interests, sensibilities and intelligence of the people of Northern Ireland.

□ Rodney Birkett, aged 25, a private in the Royal Anglian Regiment was remanded in civilian custody at a special court in Northern Ireland yesterday, on a charge of murdering Angela D'Arcy, aged 25, who was shot dead in Enniskillen, co Fermanagh, on Wednesday.

Telecom to aim for economies of 25pc

By Paul Routledge Labour Editor

British Telecom is planning to cut its operating costs by 25 per cent over the next three years, in an economy drive directed against restrictive union practices that may involve redundancies.

Sir George Jefferson, chairman of the state telecommunications business, has told unions that changes must be made soon to reduce labour and other bills by about 8 per cent each year up to 1984.

He said: "We have about 15 months left in which to put ourselves on a proper commercial footing, for if we are caught off balance, then markets might be irretrievably lost to our competitors."

Main priorities in forthcoming talks will be the need to match high wages with high output and the achievement of lower costs.

In the new commercial climate brought about by the Government's legislative abolition of the state telephone monopoly, British Telecom is also discussing with ministers the dea of "Buzby Bonds" to bring private investment into the nationalized concern.

"We are looking at possible arrangements for giving preference to staff applications," Sir George says in what he describes as "the most urgent and important message in the history of the business", in the staff newspaper.

"Whatever the colour of future governments will need access to private money because the National Loan Fund (the source of present borrowing) is unlikely to meet our needs over the next few years. But the effectiveness of this means of how attractive the bonds are to raising money will depend on the market. And that depends on how profitable we are and how people view our prospects".

Sir George then announced his board's target to save about 25 per cent of running costs over the next three years.

"Management must bear the main responsibility for most of what is wrong and for putting it right with the help of unions and staff". The main concerns singled out are demarcation problems, "inflexible" work practices, rigidity on manning levels and slowness to accept change.

British Telecom does not have plans for sweeping, across-the-board redundancies of the kind experienced in other services and industries. "But I cannot give a guarantee that there will not be any redundancy", the chairman insisted.

British Telecom's outgoings in 1980-81 were £4,373m, and a 25 per cent reduction on that overall bill would mean a billion-pound cutback in money spent on operating the telecommunications service, investment, buildings, research and interest payments.

Mr Bryan Stanley, general secretary of the Post Office Engineering Union, suggested yesterday that Sir George's comments were "no more than a general idea about how he sees the future".



Winning looks: A thoughtful Chris Esplin and Kevin Keegan.

A champion at five

Chris Esplin, aged five, who saved his drowning brother, was one of several young people who were named Champion Children of the Year, by Dr Barnardo's at a ceremony in London yesterday.

The boy, of New Marske, Redcar, Cleveland, received an award for his bravery in rescuing his brother, aged two, who slipped out of a rubber ring in a swimming pool. The older boy grabbed his brother by the hair and held him out of the water

Thirty children reached the finals of the Dr Barnardo's competition and heard Princess Margaret announce the winners of the nine sections, which covered drama, art, dancing, music, special interests, junior mastermind, sport, courage of the handicapped and Superkid '81.

The finalists and the eventual winners were selected by a panel of experts, each of whom had a particular interest in one of the sections. They included Kevin Keegan, Richard Baker, Tony Hart, John Noakes, Karen Rabinowitz, Johnny Ball, Keith Castle and David Johnson, chief executive of Rumbelows, who sponsored the competition.

Speaker orders MP to get out

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

It was a day of considerable excitement in the Commons yesterday. Mr Arthur Lewis, the heavyweight Labour MP for Newham North West, was thrown out by the Speaker after getting so wound up that he could not stop talking on a point of order.

Mr Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, seemed to be on the perge of a coup d'etat, Mr Michael Foot seemed to be on the verge of a nervous breakdown and five youths were hauled from the public gallery of the House after shouting hypocrite at Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State for Home Affairs.

To top it all Miss Joan Lestor, the new women's rights spokesperson on the Labour front bench, tried to enrol Mr William Whitelaw in the feminist cause—a task, needless to say, which she did not find too rewarding.

Much of the tension and turmoil, as it turned out, was the result of an unusually leaky 48 hours in the corridors of power, during which ministers, MPs, agents provocateurs, MI5 and MI6, not to mention M1 and M3 have been taking open government to ludicrous lengths.

Everything from the legalizing of brothels to the cutting of unemployment pay has been divulged in devious and sinister ways. No wonder Mr Foot was calling for the flood barriers and Mr Lewis was urging the Speaker to send out a lifeboat.

Indeed, Labour MPs were understandably too happy when they pressed Mr Whitelaw to make a few more revelations, only to be told that patience was a virtue and that they would have to wait for Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, to make a statement next week.

But Mr Whitelaw was reckoning without Mr ewis, who is not a man to be trifled with when he gets righteously indignant. Mr ewis is the MP who lay down in front of a large lorry outside the Savoy Hotel on behalf of some good cause long since forgotten.

"Day in and day out, they are leaking, leaking, leaking", he shouted, glaring furiously at the Government Front Bench.

"It's a revolution we want", Mr Skinner yelled from the seat beside him. "Or at least a change", Mr Robert Cryer (Keighley), a fellow militant, suggested.

"Get the tumbrils out" another insurgent shouted from below the gangway. Just as things began to get interesting, with Mr Skinner looking around for the nearest lamp post, the Speaker began to lean heavily on Mr Lewis, warning him of his tolerance so far and of his patience that was fast running out.

But it is no easy matter to stop Mr Lewis once he has been wound up and the member for West Ham NW demanded a ruling from the chair.

"My ruling", the Speaker said, "is that Mr Lewis has been wasting our time for the past five minutes and I must ask him to leave the precincts of this House for the rest of the day's sitting."

Parliamentary report, page 12

Science Report

Three tests try to end the bends for divers

By Pearce Wright Science Editor

Three research programmes are starting to try to prevent decompression sickness (the bends) among divers, and to avoid the incidence of an incapacitating bone erosion that often follows.

One investigation is planned in an experimental chamber to be built underground beneath 150 feet of clay. It will test a novel idea by Dr Anthony Evans and Professor Dennis Walder, of Newcastle University, that cosmic particles which form part of the natural background radiation may provide the trigger for bubble formation that causes the bends.

A second project by Professor Sir William Paton and Dr Stephen Daniels, of the department of pharmacology at Oxford University, is based on a method for pinpointing microscopic bubbles in tissues and monitoring their movement. The third, and long term study, allows tests for the potential effects on divers of experimental mixtures of gases designed to allow men to work at much greater depths

Those experiments will be done at the Medical Research Council's clinical research centre at Harrow. Apparatus that simulates diving conditions at pressures up to 200 atmospheres has been installed.

The technical factors influencing the economics of underwater work are complicated. For instance, a diver working for one hour at 350ft needs 16.5 hours of decompression to return to surface conditions. So for economic reasons diving teams are kept in living quarters maintained at the pressure of the water level in which they are working.

Bubbles occur in two or three out of 100 divers working at the relatively modest depths of present offshore technology. Yet the reason for their formation is a mystery.

Professor Walder's group has been building a statistical analysis since 1964 of bone necrosis, thought to arise from the interruption in the blood supply to the bone

His team has detected an association between the death of areas of bone and the level of two substances manufactured in the body, and found as hydroxyproline in the urine and ferritin in the blood. Both chemicals have been found to increase significantly soon after a bout of decompression sickness.

Strike call by tanker men

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

Shop stewards representing tanker drivers at two leading oil companies last night called for a series of lightning one-day strikes in protest at the companies' refusal to increase an 8.1 per cent pay offer. Company managements said the effects of such strikes would be very serious.

The 3,000 oil distribution workers at Shell and Texaco terminals will hold meetings over the next week to decide whether to back the call. But transport unions officials gave a warning last night that if there is backing from the workforce the strikes will be held without advance notice being given.

The Transport and General Workers Union, which represents Britain's 20,000 tanker drivers and terminal workers, said that the aim of the indefinite series of strike would be to maximize the effect on the company while causing little hardship to the public.

□ The seamen's union last night called off its ban on ferry services between Britain and Northern Ireland and blockade of P & O vessels in British ports, after assurances from the Government that there is genuine interest from a ferry operator in reopening the Belfast to Liverpool service which P & O closed two weeks ago.

□ The General and Municipal Workers' Union, one of the leading unions in the electricity suply industry, yesterday drew u a ay claim worth about 15 or 16 er cent

□ Leaders of 42,000 gas manual workers have submitted a claim for a large pay increase.

Blaze destroys factory

From Our Correspondent, Lincoln

Nineteen firemen were detained in hospital last night suffering the effects of poisonous fumes from a blazing plastics factory in Louth, Lincolnshire. The fire was contained after seven hours. Another 23 firemen had hospital treatment but they were later released.

More than 150 people were evacuated from their homes during the fire at C. K. Addison Ltd, fertilizer bag manufacturers, which spread a cloud of poisonous smoke over six miles of the north Lincolnshire countryside.

Louth County Hospital, which handled the casualties was in constant touch throughout the day with Guy's Hospital, London, for advice on treatment.

At one stage fireman wearing breathing apparatus were hosed down every 10 minutes by colleagues because of the heat. Today forensic scientists will begin sifting through the wreckage to try to establish the cause of the fire.

The blaze destroyed the factory in Brackenburg Road. Damage was estimated at hundreds of thousands of pounds.

Mr George Moore the Lincolnshire fire chief, praised his men. "They put themselves in great danger to control the fire and did a marvellous job."

None of the firemen detained in hospital was seriously hurt.

THATCHER'S CRITICS VOTED OUT

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

Senior Conservatives moved last night to stop organized attempts by rightwingers to punish critics of the Government through voting them out of the offices of important backbench committees.

The anger of the party's left wing over what it regards as petty revenge missions by the right was intensified when Mr Terence Higgins, who has been a persistent critic of the Government's economic strategy lost his position as chairman of the sports committee to an outspoken rightwinger, Mr John Carlisle, and Mr Michael Mates was defeated as vice-chairman of the Northern Ireland committee by Mr Ivor Stanbrook.

Some MPs were saying last night that the defeat of Mr Higgins, a former Treasury minister and now a highly respected backbencher, was the last straw and that the purge had gone too far. As a former Olympic runner he was seen as an ideal choice as chairman

Scarman reaction

Brixton anti-crime raid a mistake, police chief admits

Commander Brian Fairbairn, the Brixton-based head of the Lambeth district police, yesterday gave a guarded welcome to Lord Scarman's proposals for correcting past shortcomings, although a touch of wounded pride could be detected beneath his customary good humour.

"Commander Fairbairn did his best", he quoted, not relishing the faint praise. But he found the report as a whole "fair and well balanced", he told *The Times*, despite its criticisms of his own actions and those of his men.

"A a professional police officer I am bound, and happy, to take notice of what Lord Scarman said about policing in ethnic sensitive areas", he said. "Having been told I have been wrong, it is my job to do it in a more professional manner."

Ever since he went to Brixton (in October, 1980) he had endeavoured to relate to those community leaders ready to talk to him.

"The suggestion is being made that I should be more open, and discuss more policy matters with members of the community. This obviously is something I have to reflect on very deeply." He hoped members of the public would also bear in mind Lord Scarman's observation that not all plans could be discussed.

Lord Scarman described Operation Swamp 81, which was designed to catch thieves and muggers and immediately preceded the April riots, as a serious mistake.

"I think perhaps in hindsight I should have got around the problem we had in a different manner; and I am quite prepared to accept that the maxim 'we learn by our mistakes' applies to me", Commander Fairbairn said.

"One wants to work with the community. It clearly pays the police to relate to and have the full support of the community. At the same time if you are going to try to curb what in this instance is a very high crime rate, you may sometimes have, paradoxically, to do things which seem to work against this. It is difficult to please everyone all the time, in fact it is impossible."

As for Lord Scarman's recommendation of statutory consultation with community members at a borough or police district level, Commander Fairbairn seemed to have misgivings about enforced relationships of that type, and said only: "It is an interesting proposition, and clearly a matter for consideration by members of Parliament and the Attorney General."

He also feared than any new complaints procedure which he agreed must be seen to be fair, would be likely to arouse the mistrust of some section of the community.

He had heard many complaints from community leaders, but it had to be borne in mind that young officers were sometimes exposed to insults that were hard to bear. Inexcusable though it was in a disciplined force for anyone to react improperly, it required a lot of wisdom, patience and tolerance not to take the bait, he said.

Much effort and money had been expended to try to attract more police recruits from ethnic minorities (as advocated by ord Scarman). Perhaps the hostility which they sometimes encountered within their own communities was one reason why many very able potaential recruits did not come forward. Commander Fairbairn has under him five officers of West Indian origin, two Asians, a Cypriot and a Turk.

Omens bad for the Brixton blacks

□ Among the shifting groups of young blacks waiting and watching on the "front line" in Brixton yesterday faint stirrings of hope that Lord Scarman's report might produce some improvement in their lot were discernible below a thick blanket of cynicism, bitterness and hatred of the police (David Nicholson-Lord writes).

The youths who patrol outside the few shops left in Railton Road, centre of the April riots, are probably the most crucial target of the report. In their late teens and twenties, many of them Rastafarians, most without jobs, it was their response to police tactics that sparked the riots. Their behaviour will provide the barometer of change

Twenty-four hours after the Scarman report's publication, most had gained their sketchy impressions of it. None could cite specific recommendations. But they agreed on one central point: that Lord Scarman had told the truth.

Mr Steven Brown, aged 23, a painter and decorator and the only one of some 20 youths willing to be named, agreed that the police should be under "some form of jurisdiction". He added: "In my view they are just running wild. If Lord Scarman had more power—if the police were answerable to him—then there would be a better police force."

The lack of jobs, leisure centres and a cinema, however, worried him more than police consultation machinery.

The omens seemed bad yesterday. Three young blacks, watched by the police as they talked to *The Times*—an interview that led to some arguments and shouting—were followed by a police car when they got into their own vehicle, an H-registration Jaguar. They drove round the block to avoid what they said would be a certain pickup by the police.

One of them later rejoined his friends. "Tell me that is not harassment", he said. "It is childish—just a waste of petrol. The report only came out yesterday and it has started already."

Gesturing towards the semi-derelict houses opposite and the palisades of corrugated iron further up the road, he added: "There is not going to be joy in Scarman. Most people here think it is a load of talk. What are they going to do—knock down all Brixton and build a new housing estate?"

Others predicted that more black policemen would worsen matters. They supported Mr Enoch Powell's statements that "you have not seen anything yet" and said they would welcome subsidized repatriation if the price was right: £9,000 was mentioned.

Policing method the central issue

□ If it is possible for a community to shrug its shoulders, that is what Toxteth did yesterday in response to Lord Scarman's report (John Witherow writes).

Those living at the south end of Liverpool 8, scene of most serious of last July's spate of riots, have become wary of people asking questions. Their response is not to condemn anything as condemn anything as constructive as Lord Scarman's proposals, but to wait and see.

Some thought Lord Scarman's report was reasonable, others irrelevant, but most agreed that change, particularly in policing the area, was essential. "The kids are saying the same as they have always said", one youth worker said. "They want to see less aggravation and less bother from the police."

While welcoming the recommendations about better training, more policemen on the beat, and independent inquiries into complaints, some are disappointed that Lord Scarman did not come out against the "stop and search" law.

"Stop and search is important in that it brings young black people into contact with the police", Mr Ewen Gilhespy, a youth worker in the area for 10 years, said. "It can give them a reason to be cheeky, and means they can end up in court with a record. It starts the ball rolling."

Young people in Toxteth also want to see Mr Kenneth Oxford, Chief Constable of Merseyside, removed. "That would be a symbolic gesture which would show the authorities mean business", one youth said.

A man aged 39, an unemployed former seaman, was more optimistic. "I think Scarman's report will change things", he said "I hope they take not of it. The Defence Committee should sit down with the police and talk. That is the problem—they are not talking." But Mr Gilhespy was less hopeful. "Things have to change. Those who were out on the streets in the summer have not seen anything come from it. They seem very disgruntled", he said.

The Liverpool 8 Defence Committee, set up to represent those arrested in the riots, said the report was direct and honest but added: "It will be a long time before any trust is felt between the community and police".

The causes of the rioting were stil present, they added, and exacerbated by "a police force and policing method which is racial in attitude, and brutal in practice".

□ The Scarman report, hailed by some as an historic document, was likely to be an historic disaster a community leader at Moss Side, Manchester, said yesterday (Ronald Kershaw writes). Mr Augustine John, an educationalist employed by the local authority and chairman of the Moss Side Defence Committee, said local authorities all over the country were looking to Scarman for guidance on how to proceed with policing a community. Unfortunately the report failed to grasp the central issue.

"The message the disturbances had for this country", he said, "was that the black and white youths had risen against the police. However many frills like unemployment and social conditions were introduced, the central issue was still the method of policing."

The courts now reinforced and underlined what the police were doing in a community. In short people were looked upon as guilty until proved innocent. Independent witnesses at interrogations of suspects and more black policemen were merely cosmetic suggestions.

He said guidelines should be laid down by the Lord Chancellor instructing magistrates and judges that unless police evidence of the highest standard was presented, convictions should not be made.

Mr John said the implications of the Scarman report would percolate only slowly through to the black population at Moss Side. Hardly anybody would read it and those who wanted to would not be able to afford it, at £8 a copy.

Mr William Winter, black and retired, said he felt there should be more cooperation with police. He welcomed the idea of coloured policemen because, he said: "At least they could not be accused of being prejudiced".

Mr Oliver Brown, a disc jockey who came from the West Indies to Moss Side eight years ago, said he felt the police should become more involved in the community. One of the real problems was racial bias. He had been for countless interviews for jobs but when he said he was from Moss Side, people did not want to know: "We are dismissed as troublemakers and that is that", he said.

Anatomy of a riot, page 13

CORRECTION

The total injured in the Brixton riots on April 10-12 was 409 policemen and 49 members of the public, and not 279 and 45, respectively (which was for one night only) as reported from the Press Association in The Times yesterday.

From yesterday's later editions

DEFECTION HINT BY MP

Mr George Cunnigham, Labour MP for Islington South and Finsbury, after being reselected on Wednesday as prospective candidate for the next general election, hinted that he was on the verge of leaving the party.

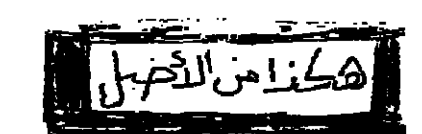
"I now have a decision to take, which in the short term, will be taken by Monday", he said. After 11 years as a Labour member the reselection by a margin of give votes "leaves me hanging from the clifftop by my fingertips,

Fares decision not hasty, QC says

The Greater London Council reached its decision to subsidize a 25 per cent cut in bus and Tube fares from the rates after careful and thorough consideration, Mr Robert Alexander, QC, told the House of Lords on the second day of the GLC's appeal.

The GLC is appealing against the Court of Appeal ruling on November 10 which upheld a claim by the London borough of Bromley that the GLC had acted illegally in levying an extra 6.1p rate to pay for the cut in fares.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 25; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 500 mils; Denmark Dkr 6.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 6.50; France Frs 6.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 75; Holland Gl 3; Iran IR 135; Iraq LD 0.500; Irish Republic 30p; Italy L 1600; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 6.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 75; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 3.25; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 7.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS5.50; Tunisia Din .600; USA $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.



European menu for the summit guests



Keith Waldegrave

Heads of Government and the President of the European Commission meeting the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince and Princess of Wales in the Picture Gallery at Buckingham Palace before going in for lunch yesterday. After consuming some of the products of the common agricultural policy, lobster quenelles in Champagne sauce, braised rump steak, cauliflower and wines, the leaders went on to discuss it at their summit at Lancaster House. The European heads launched into two days of discussions on budget reforms and farming policies that promised hours of hard talking before the meeting ends today. Pictured (from left) are M Mark Eyskens (Belgium) Mr Andreas Papandreou (Greece); Sgr Giovanni Spadolini (Italy); Mr Anker Joergensen (Denmark); M Gaston Thorn, the commission President, M Francoise Mitterrand (France); M Pierre Werner (Luxembourg); the Queen, Herr Helmut Schmidt (West Germany); the Princess of Wales, the Prince of Wales, Mr Garret Fitzgerald (Ireland); Mr Andries van Agt (the Netherlands); Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the Duke of Edinburgh.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Competition 'a threat to rural buses'

More country buses will have to be withdrawn because of the Government's competition policies, Mr Robert Brook, chief executive of the state-owned National Bus Company, said yesterday (Michael Baily, our Transport Correspondent writes).

In a speech in Cumberland, where the Government has just allowed an outside operator on to NBS routes, against the advice of the traffic commissioners, Mr Brook said (the National Bus would fight to hold on to its profitable routes even if that meant abandoning unprofitable services, mainly in rural areas.

"There will be no easy pickings from NBC bus routes", he said. "Let me make it plain that the only way to run a network of bus services at a profit is by ditching any unprofitable operations".

National Bus, which operates 16,000 vehicles and a quarter of Britain's state bus services, is having a huge success with its National Express inter-city services, partly at the expense of British Rail, and is a candidate for partial privatization, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, has indicated.

New names on Press Council

A police superintendent, an accountant, an intensive care unit nurse, and a BL export packer were named yesterday as new public members of the Press Council.

They are: Mr Herbert Dawson, aged 49, of Basildon, Essex, an Essex county police superintendent and former head of the county police complaints department; Mr Peter Edward Hamilton Fowler, aged 32, of Beaumaris, Anglesey, senior partner in a firm of chartered accountants in rural Wales; Mrs Rosalie Fripp, aged 43, of Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, a part-time staff nurse in an intensive care unit and a Labour member of Avon County Council; and Mr Denis Ward, aged 39, of South Yardley, Birmingham, an export packer with BL.

Two public members reappointed for a second term are Mrs Beryl Huffinley, aged 55, of Ilkley, Yorkshire, secretary of the Leeds Trades Council and Yorkshire and Humberside TUC regional council, and Mrs Margaret Parkes, aged 56, of Barbican, London,

Contempt move against paper

Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, was yesterday given leave in the High Court to bring contempt of court proceedings against the publishers of the *News of the World*.

The paper is alleged to have published an article on March 1 which tended to prejudice the retrial of Tracey Stamp, the former sailor who underwent a sex-change operation, on a charge of poisoning Mr Keith Vincent, her former boyfriend. The application was unopposed.

Onedin ship fire

A schooner known to millions of television viewers as the Charlotte Rhodes in the BBC *Onedin Line* series was slightly damaged by fire at Brightlingsea, Essex, yesterday.

Libby Purves on TV

Libby Purves, who is leaving the *Today* programme on Radio 4, is to chair a new BBC-1 television discussion programme in the new year, called *Choices*. In it people will discuss moral decisions in difficult situations.

Homelessness ruling brings new protests

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

The House of Lords ruled yesterday that a family were intentionally homeless because they had not waited to be evicted. The judgment led to renewed demands for clarification of the law.

Housing charities immediately called for regulations to be strengthened to prevent such judgments which, they said, were contrary to the law's intentions.

The case adds to the growing number of contradictory judgments over the interpretation of the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act, 1977, which required local authorities to provide permanent accommodation for homeless people falling into defined priority groups, provided they were not intentionally homeless.

The Lords ruled by three to two that Wandsworth Borough Council was right to treat Mr Taj Din and his family as intentionally homeless, confirming a previous split judgment in the Court of Appeal. Last week five Law Lords unanimously ruled against Hillingdon council in a similar case.

Mr and Mrs Din and their four children had been living above a shop in Wandsworth, which they jointly owned and ran with relatives. The business began to fail in 1978, and the next year they asked Wandsworth council for advice.

They were told they could not be helped until they had been evicted, but they left to stay with relatives. Mr Din later moved into temporary lodgings, while his wife and children lived with her brother.

But overcrowding compelled Mrs Din and the children to leave and the family asked Wandsworth for help. The council ruled that they were intentionally homeless and provided them with temporary accommodation.

That decision was upheld yesterday by Lord Wilberforce, Lord Lowry and Lord Fraser of Tullybelton. Lord Russell of Killowen and Lord Bridge of Harwich said they would have allowed the appeal. Lord Lowry, while dismissing the appeal, said there was no question of queue-jumping or other unmeritorious conduct.

But Lord Wilberforce said that every allocation of priority housing to homeless persons must have the effect of deferring the hopes of people in other categories, some of whom might have been waiting a long time. A decision did not mean nothing could be done for those judged "intentionally homeless", since they could join the waiting list, seek nomination to a housing association or, with advice, seek private housing with temporary accommodation meanwhile.

Dissenting, Lord Bridge said he could detect no trace of any attempt to jump the queue. It seemed a great injustice if a homeless person in priority need left accommodation prematurely and was then disqualified from the main benefits of the Act.

Mr Bob Widdowson, of Shelter, said the Lords appeared to have ignored the code of guidance to the Act, which was intended to have statutory force, and which specifically stated that councils should judge cases on the immediate causes of homelessness.

In the Dins case, Wandsworth had referred back to the previous cause. The code also suggested that court orders should not be insisted upon when it was quite clear that they would be granted, as in this case.

The nine charities involved in monitoring the law are worried that thousands more families may be declared intentionally homeless. In the second half of 1980, 1,300 homeless families were treated under that category, an 83 per cent increase over the previous two years.

The Department of the Environment said yesterday that the review of the Act would be published shortly.

The Din family are living in temporary accommodation, provided indirectly by Wandsworth council. Alternative housing is being sought for them by voluntary housing workers.

Law Report, page 6

Licensed or licentious?

By Tony Samstag

Reactions yesterday to the news that the Government would shortly be issuing a working paper on the advisability of licensing brothels came yesterday like a rash of bad music hall jokes.

There was, to begin with, the one about the vicar, the magistrate and the prostitute. The Rev Kenneth Middleton, of St Matthew's, Leicester, welcomed the possibility of licensing because, "like gambling, prostitution exists whether I condone it or not. We cannot just go on ignoring it".

Mr Arthur Storer, a magistrate and former mayor of Wolverhampton, said a licensing system would help keep prostitutes off the streets and restrict them to areas where they would not give offence to residents. "An area like a light industrial estate might be suitable", he said. And, besides, the girls would have to pay tax on their earnings.

In Wolverhampton last year police threatened to prosecute clients as well as prostitutes.

As for the prostitute, Ms Anne Neale, of the English Collective of Prostitutes, said that she and her colleagues were against licensing.

"The women do not want to be 'ghettoized' even more than they are now. They feel it would be like working in a sex factory on an assembly line of sex", she said.

Prostitutes preferred to choose their operating methods; it would be best if the existing laws against brothels were repealed so that the girls could work from home or with friends.

That notion of the prostitute as free spirit was echoed by Mr John Mortimer, QC, the barrister and playwright, who approached the vexed question—strictly in theory—from the consumer's point of view.

He said: "If I were a person who was excited by brothels I would probably find them more exciting if they were unlicensed." On the other hand, the exploitation of "these pathetic human beings" might indeed be curbed by such legislation.

The Government's interest in the matter was disclosed almost incidentally in Parliament on Wednesday by Mr Giles Shaw, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, during discussion of the Local Government (Miscellaneous) Provisions Bill, which was given a second reading.

Mrs Mary Whitehouse, of the National Viewers and Listeners Association, was not enthusiastic in her reaction. "When you licence, society gives an authority and, in effect, legalizes sex shops or brothels. The real problem is that the Government is failing in its public duty to give the country effective obscenity laws", she said.

But the last word, perhaps appropriately, came from Mr Roger Baker, editor of *Forum*, the sex-education magazine. He was, he said, in favour of licensed brothels and his immediate reaction was "about time". His only reservation was, like Mr Mortimer, to wonder whether men would want to patronize a safe and in effect respectable establishment.

Assurance on safety at Canvey



Sir Bernard Braine: Fears not dispelled.

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

The Health and Safety Executive yesterday rejected claims that an industrial accident on Canvey Island could start a firestorm like those which devastated Dresdent and Hamburg in the Second World War.

"These incidents were of an entirely different nature from what could happen in the Canvey area", it said in a report on safety improvements at the island's vast refinery and storage complex.

The executive claimed that improvements since it reported in 1978 had been "substantial and well-founded". But Sir Bernard Braine, the Conservative MP whose constituency of Essex, South East includes the island, remains unsatisfied after years of protest about the dangers to the 34,000 people who live on the 15 square mile island.

"There have been improvements, but whether they are well-founded I beg leave to doubt", he said. "We are not dealing with an ordinary sort of industrial hazard. If there were an accident it would be the largest disaster in peacetime history".

The island contains the largest refinery and liquefied gas storage complex in Europe. It is almost 30 miles east of London, near the mouth of the Thames Estuary. A planning inquiry into the British Gas methane terminal on the south of the island will begin in January, and Sir Bernard will be among the leading objectors.

The executive said improvements in the past three years, some of which had been backed by enforcement orders, had cost the industries on the island £15m. It calculated that the average individual risk of death or serious injury on the island had dropped in the past three years from more than five chances in 10,000 a year to less than half a chance in 10,000.

It pointed out that the average individual had well over one chance in 10,000 of being killed in a motor accident, and a higher risk of dying from natural causes at any age than of being killed in an accident on Canvey Island.

"The current situation is not perfect, but it is manifestly impossible to eliminate all risk from industrial activity, as it i from life generally," te executive commeted. "It is only too easy to predict disaster as the inevitable outcome of every potentially hazardous industrial activity, and to assign resources on such a basis is extremely wasteful".

Sir Bernard commented last night: "I don't think the public should be fooled by these mathematical formulae. There are areas of risk which will be put under a magnifying glass at the inquiry".

Canvey, a Second Report; Stationery Office, £7

Inquest told of helicopter's last call

From Our Correspondent, Norwich

Seconds before a helicopter crashed into the sea killing 13 men, a Mayday message was sent saying: "Ditching—engine failure", an inquest in Norwich was told yesterday. Open verdicts were returned on the 12 victims whose bodies had been recovered.

The helicopter, a Westland Wessex operated by Bristow's, was returning to the Amoco terminal at Bacton, in Norfolk, from the Leman gas rigs when it plunged into the sea near the Haisboro Sands, in August this year. It was less than four minutes away from base.

The inquest was told that post mortem examinations on 12 of the victims showed they died from multiple injuries which caused instantaneous death. The body of the thirteenth man has not been recovered.

Group Captain Antohony Balfour, an RAF consultant pathologist said the injuries resulted from a violent impact. "It was sufficiently violent to cause the fuselage to collapse, and for the heavy transmission components to come down and strike the passengers on the head," he said.

Flight Sergeant Jerry Ward, of Air Traffic Control at RAF Coltishall, said he heard a Mayday distress call from the pilot, Capt, Basil Breach, aged 51, of Harley Road, Great Yarmouth.

A transcript of a tape-recording of the call said "Golf Whisky India is ditching — engine failure." Sgt Ward asked the helicopter's position, but there was no reply and he alerted a rescue helicopter

Counsel representing the family of one of the victims asked if the pilot had mentioned rotor blades. Segent Ward said that was not possible. The message was so short, and only a few words were said, one of which was "engine".

Mr William Holmes, an air traffic controller employed by Bristow's at Great Yarmouth heliport, said he heard the distress call as "Mayday, Mayday, Mayday—Whisky India ditching—engine failure". Mr Holmes added there had not been any radio report of a fault previously, but Captain Breach "would have called had there been anything wrong."

The coroner was told the helicopter had been cleared to fly at a height of 1,500 feet.

The victims were: Captain Breach, Mr Adrian Amis, aged 37, a cabin attendant, of Byron Way, Caister, Norfolk; Mr Ian Cullen, aged 39, and Mr James Fairclough, aged 37, both of North Walsham, Norfolk; Mr Gordon Errington, aged 38, of Lorrimers Close, Peterlee, Co Durham; Mr Charles Wayland, aged 37, of Peaseland Green, Elsing, Norfolk; Mr Thomas Smith, aged 27, of Sunningdale, Wickham, Tyne and Wear; Mr Anthony Green, aged 31, of Ackers Lane, Stockton Heath, Warrington; Mr Brian Nalton, aged 29, of Ranscomb Road, Brixham; Mr Douglas Browne, aged 39, of Millers Lane, Norwich; Mr Stephen Harvey, aged 28, of St George's Close, Thurton, Norfolk; Mr Peter Lawrence, aged 57, of West Street, Portchester, Hampshire; and the victim whose body has not been recovered, Mr Robert Phillips, aged 41, of Queensway, Wymondham, Norfolk.

Mr Geoffrey Wilkinson, the Department of Trade chief accident investigator, said that he had been unable to pinpoint the cause of the crash. Seventy-five per cent of the Wessex 60 helicopter had not been recovered as it was buried under 12 feet of seabed sand.

Drug gang leader gets 10 years and £250,000 fine

A gang og cannabis smugglers received sentences ranging from 18 months to 10 years, and fines totalling more than £675,000 at the Central Criminal Court, London yesterday for their part in "Operation Cyril".

The team of 13 men made an estimated £40m by smuggling "cannabis by the ton" into a tiny Cornish cove at Talland Bay, between 1975 and 1979, the court was told.

After a two-month trial, Judge Richard Lowry jailed the gang for a total of 55 years. He told them: "The scale of this case makes long sentences unavoidable." He said vast sums were made, going into millions of pounds.

"All the defendants deliberately chose to deal in drugs, and big and wasy money was the lure. Cannabis was selected because it is easy to acquire and easy to sell, and vast proits could be, and were made in the process'.

Robert Mills, bookmaker, who was the mastermind of the gang, received the longest sentence, 10 years. He was also fined £250,000 and ordered to pay prosecution costs not exceeding £50,000.

The judge told him: "You are the most prominent person in this story. You have abilities and engaging qualities." But, he added, Mills's career as a smuggler was "worthless in human terms and disruptive to the community".

Before sentencing the 13, six of whom admitted their part in the operation, the judge said he had no powers to take money from any of the defendants' bank accounts. "The court's powers are limited by Acts of Parliament. Parliament had not contemplated a case on this scale when the various statutes were enacted.

The gang had chosen cannabis, as it could be acquired and sold easily. The drug was brought from North Africa on board a converted radar equipped fishing boat, Guiding Light. The Millions made from drug sales, estimated at £40m over the years, in cash into a City bank.

Mills, aged 41, of Otto Street, Walworth, South-east London, used his race-course activities as a cover for cash

Before he was sentenced, the court heard from his counsel, Mr Robin Simpson, QC, that most of his assets had gone. Money in Swiss bank accounts and £183,500 found in his accounts at two streatham banks on his arrest were used up.

Two Gibraltarians, Ambrose Vinales, aged 51, bank manager, and Edward Victory, aged 57, businessman — were jailed for nine years and 18 months respectively. Victory was also fined £250,000 and ordered to pay costs not exceeding £50,000.

Vinales, who transferred cash from the drug sales to his native country where it was "laundered", was also fined £140,000.

Trevor Coles, aged 40, financial consultant, of Aysgarth Road, Dulwich, south-east London, was convicted of plotting to supply cannabis, described as intermediate banker, was jailed for seven years, and fined £18,000. William Moon, aged 41, roofer, of Canonbie Road, Forest Hill, south-east London, was also jailed for seven years.

Dennis Madden, 29, builder, of Chestnut Avenue, Langley, Buckinghamshire was sentenced to two-and-a-half years and fined £14,660. Thomas Lake, aged 37, unemployed of Abbey Street, Southwark, south-east London, was jailed for 18 months.

Six men who admitted their part in the plot were jailed for periods ranging from a 21-month suspended sentence to five years. They were:

Reginald Jackson, aged 41, of Watford Way, Hendon, London, in charge of the Guiding Lights crew: jailed for five years; Terence Goodship, aged 40, property agent, of Eastcote Road, Welling, Kent, three years; Malcolm Gardiner, aged 34, yachtsman, of Oakwood, West End Road, Bitterne, Southampton: four years' jail and fined £400.

Roderick Eagleton, aged 35, café owner, of Rotterdam Cottage, Talland Bay, Cornwall: three years and a £2,000 fine; Joseph Timmins, aged 48, driver, of Stamford Park Road, Hale, Altrincham, Cheshire: two years and fined £2,000.

The last of the six, Anthony Dugdale, aged 35, marine engineer, of Wicomarine, Porchester, Hampshire, who played a vital role, then chose to leave the gang, received a 21-moth sentence, suspended hor two years.

Gardiner, Goodship, Jackson and Dugdale had all been crew members of the Guiding Lights.

After the 13 defendants were taken to the cells, Judge Lowry paid tribute to police and customs men investigating the case. "All of the police officers are much to be commended for their arduous work", he said.

Repaired portrait of Princess on show

By Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

The portrait of the Princess of Wales by Bryan Organ, which was severely damaged when it was slashed with a knife in August, was back on display at the National Portrait Gallery, London, yesterday fully restored and protected by an unbreakable perspex screen.

As a result of the attack, Bryan Organ's portrait of the Prince of Wales and Annigoni's picture of the Queen have also been covered with a perspex screen. The decision was taken reluctantly, and Annigoni objected because a screen alters the colours and makes a picture more difficult to view because of reflected light.

The Princess's portrait was so badly damaged that there were fears it might not be adequately restored. But the cuts have been so skilfully repaired the damage is scarcely visible. Only through close scrutiny can the slightest sign of repair be detected.

Dr John Hayes, director of the gallery, said he was delighted with the result. The artist, was also full of praise for Mr Peter Newman, who spent about 100 hours relining the canvas, which had suffered three large cuts and been ripped, and Mr John Bull, who restored the painting. "They have done a fantastic job", Dr Hayes said.

He said the cost of restoration would exceed £1,000.

Mixed ability teaching shows a decline in secondaries

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Contrary to common belief, the use of mixed ability teaching in the early years of secondary school has declined slightly in recent years, while the use of sets, or graded ability groups for different subjects, has increased sharply, a report published today says.

The report gives the findings of a three-year research project by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) into the emotive issue of mixed ability teaching. The subject involves children of all abilities being taught together in the same class.

That form of class organization has been the target of much heated criticism, particularly from right-wing educationists, who hold it in large part responsible for the alleged decline in academic standard.

Those hoping for a cut-and-dried judgment on the merits or otherwise of mixed ability teaching will be disappointed, however. The report concludes that, there are no certain results, positive or negative, which can be assumed to follow inevitably from mixed ability grouping or, problaby, from any other form of class organization.

The main advantages claimed for keeping children in mixed ability groups in the early years of secondary schooling were that: it gave pupils a fresh start and helped avoid the labelling of pupils; it avoided the creation of disaffected "sink" groups, sometimes produced by dividing children into separate streams according to their level of ability; and it helped create a community which favoured certain aspects of personal and social development, and which was conducive to improved behaviour among pupils and greater work satisfaction among teachers.

To be set against that, were the main disadvantages reported by teachers. Those included lowered attainment among more able pupils, difficulties experienced by the less able, and an increased burden on teachers.

Mixed ability teaching is far less widespread in comprehensive schools than is commonly supposed. The foundations' survey of nearly 600 schools, carried out last year, indicates that while just over half of all schools use mixed ability groups for most of the curriculum in the first year, only 18 per cent continue to do so in the third year, compared with 25 per cent in 1975.

☐ Despite being up to three years behind English children in attainment on entering primary school and facing continuing linguistic difficulties, most Asian children more than catch up by the time they leave school, the National Association of Head Teachers says in a report published yesterday.

The report, on the education needs and attainment of Asian children, had been drawn up by two working parties of head teachers, one in London and the other in the Midlands. It forms evidence to the committee of inquiry into the education of children from ethnic minority groups, which is by Lord Swann.

The report identifies some of the disadvantages encoutered by Asian children, particularly in their preschool years.

Many Asian children had been confined to the home with a mother or grandmother who spoke little or no English, and also had little opportunity for physical exercise. But the children were able to cooperate totally and many were higly motivated and intellectually able, though they needed strongly structured teaching methods.

By the time they were seven most had acquired a linguistic "survival kit" though few could read and write English at he appropriate level for their age. The strong influence of the Muslim religion on Asian families made life doubly difficult for Asian pupils. From an early age, many were having to cope with two hours of extra schooling in the evenings at the mosque.

Mixed ability teaching: problems and possibilities, by Margaret Reid, Louise Clunies-Ross, Brain Goacher and Carol Vile. (NFER-Nelson Publishing Company, Darville House, 2 Oxford Road East, Windsor, Berks. S14 1DF. £8.95).

GPs better able to control pain of cancer

By Annabel Ferriman Health Services Correspondent

Family doctors are becoming better able to control the pain suffered by patients dying of cancer, according to Dame Cicely Saunders, the pioneer of the hospice movement.

Older general practitioners had proved one of the groups most resistant to the movement's aims of improving pain control and providing better moral support for terminally-ill patients and their families.

Dame Cicely was speaking at the launch of a new book on the hospice movement, published yesterday. She said that some older doctors had taken the view that they had been caring for dying patients for years and did not need advice on how to do it better.

But the care they provided was improving, she said. A study carried out by St Christopher's Hospice, Sydenham, South London, comparing a group of patients admitted to the hospice and local hospitals in 1969 with a similar group in 1979 showed that the pain the patients were suffering on admission was much better controlled in the second group than the first.

Dame Cicely, who took up medicine at the age of 33, having worked as a nurse and hospital almoner, said that although the hospice idea was being used more and more by teams of specialists working in hospitals rather than by groups putting up purpose-built units, the latter would always be needed.

Separate hospices would be necessary to welcome patients whose illness was too difficult to handle on the ordinary wards and to carry out research as St Christopher's did.

Dame Cicely founded St Christopher's in 1967, having worked for seven years at St Joseph's Hospice, Hackney. It is financed partly by the Department of Health and Social Security and partly by voluntary donations.

It is facing an acute shortage of funds, needing another £200,000 to carry it through to the end of the financial year. If it could not find the money, it might have to close a ward, she said.

The hospice, which has 62 beds, is constantly oversubscribed, and has to turn away about a third of those who apply to it.

Hospice: The Living Idea. Edited by Dame Cicely Saunders, Dorothy H. Summers, and Neville Teller, (Edward Arnold, £5.50).

Cheap rail fares to be extended

Rail travellers from London to the provinces will be offered cheap off-peak fares from January under a British Rail plan to extend its financially successful into-London discount fares, which cut by about two thirds normal ticket prices.

BR is also planning other big changes in its discounted fares structure, it was indicated in Phoenix, Arizona, by Mr Peter Keen, BR's chief passenger manager, at the annual conference of the Association of British Travel Agents (Derek Harris writes from Phoenix).

The level of prices to be charged on off-peak travel out of London was still not finalized, Mr Keen said. The reductions might not be as great as those needed to stimulate trafc to London.

The new scheme, as yet unnamed, follows the success of the "London Savers" promotion, which operates from all provincial stations with a booking office. There are no fixed reductions, but a typical discount is £9 for a return ticket from Liverpool to London compared with the ordinary proce of about £32.

London Savers were launched n October after earlier test marketing and BR has established that the scheme is both generating volume traffic and making a profit. Volume traffic on the Liverpool route had almost doubled, with reveue up 10 per cent, Mr Keen said.

Profitability was up because the additional operating costs involved in the off-peak operation were extremely low. The fares from London are expected to apply to nearly all provincial destinations.

The new scheme will be followed by a much more fundamental review of BR's fare structure, Mr Keen added. But that would be after the results of the scheme were assessed.

One strategy being considered by BR is to simplify the discounting structure. It also wants to appeal more strongly to group travel. Family rail car sales were running at 100,000 but that was only a fraction of the number of families that were potential customers.

Those holding family rail cards were on average spending £100 a year on rail journeys.

STATE AID TO FARMS ATTACKED

By John Young Agriculture Correspondent

The "unregulated use of national aids to farmers threatened the whole basis of the common agricultural policy, the National Farmers' Union said yesterday in evidence to the Commons Agricultural Committee.

The procedures laid down for dealing with national aids had proved to be ineffective, it said. Article 93 of the Treaty of Rome, which required governments to forewarn the European Commission of plans to grant or alter aid, was frequently ignored.

Calling for effective action against state aids which distorted competition, the union suggested that the Commission might be empowered to levy countervailing duties on the exports of offenders.

The union referred specifically to the continued sale of gas at subsidized prices to Dutch growers of glasshouse produce. Since the corporation responsible, Nederland Gasunie, was 50 per cent state-owned, the argument that it was a commercial agreement was unconvincing.

Bursaries plan to sustain town's choral heritage

From Arthur Osman Leicester

A unique experiment in training boys' voices, which started in Loughborough three years ago with the aim of arresting a decline in choral singing is to be widened in scope.

Mr Andrew Fairbairn, Director of Education for Leicestershire, said yesterday it was planned to offer county bursaries in the first instance to boys aged between 8 and 9, and possibly on a national basis if local applicants were not suitable.

One reason for the development was the increasing difficulty for boys to attend Sunday church services regularly, except during holidays.

The experiment, in which the parochial church council at Loughborough parish church and the governors of Loughborough Garendon High School had cooperated, aimed to maintain the English choral heritage, including church music.

It was important to help boys to sing through the period when the voice broke, and having learnt to sight read music to encourage them to continue singing.

Mr Fairbairn said the opening of a new high school at Loughborough next autumn made it important for all heads of secondary schools there to help to expand the scheme.

"The enthusiasm of the boys in the town has led to the Garendon music staff undertaking a wider remit for choral training in a number of primary schools. At the upper school are boys who have been through the scheme, and wish to continue singing as altos, tenors or basses. It is hoped that some will enter for choral scholarships at universities."

"With the whole town's schools to draw on it will not be difficult to find staff and others who read music to provide the men's voices, either in the Loughborough choir, which comprises up to 100 boys, or in the parish church choir," he said.

Mr Fairbairn said that about £40,000 was needed to launch the scheme and make it self-supporting.

Crosby tests how severely faith has been undermined in the old political alignments

For hope, for protest but mostly for Williams

By John Witherow and John Chartres

Disaffection with both Labour — because of party wrangling — and Conservative, because of the state of the economy, clearly influenced voters who were ready to state their support for the Social Democrats and Shirley Williams at Crosby yesterday. Clearly also the candidate's own personality was playing a winning part. Views offered at polling stations in the largely Labour area of Seaforth, in the south of the constituency, included:

Mrs Valerie Fairbrother, aged 32, a housewife, who had always voted Labour, said: "I wouldn't vote for Thatcher. She's robbed everybody. Shirley Williams is going to do something for the public and she won't line her own pockets. She's more for the people, and I want to give them a chance. But if they don't do well I won't vote for them again."

Mr Daniel and Mrs Ellen Brown, aged 68 and 63, retired; he has voted always Labour and she has voted Conservative: "We think things are getting so bad maybe we need somebody else to shake things up". Mrs Brown: "I think Margaret Thatcher has got the right idea but her policies are a bit harsh". Mr Brown: "Mrs Williams is a very good person but we are voting for the party, not her.

Mrs Mary Tuohy, aged 68, a retired confectioner: "I admire Shirley Williams because she had the courage to leave the Labour Party. I didn't vote Conservative because I want change. Shirley Williams has got nice principles and if she hadn't stood I would have voted Conservative."

Mr Michael Roberts, aged 18, unemployed, and voting for the first time: "I wouldn't vote Conservative and the Labour Party is all over the place. So why not try something new? The SDP seems to be all the parties rolled into one. I don't want to abandon nuclear weapons; we need some kind of deterrent."

Mr William and Mrs Lilian Robinson, accountant and shop assistant, have consistently voted Tory: "We're not political and we voted for her for fun. We don't think the SDP will really be any different from anyone else. But we like Shirley Williams. She comes in an old mac wiht her ruffled hair and she doesn't talk down to you like Margaret Thatcher. This is a one-off. We only voted for Shirley."

Mr Stanley and Mrs Marian Baker, aged 66 and 68, retired. He is a former painter and decorator: "We voted for Shirley Williams to get the Tories out. I've always voted Labour and have been a trade unionist and sat on committees of the Labour Party. If Labour stood a chance of winning here I would have voted for them. It's a protest vote against the government. I'm not opposed to the Labour candidates."

In the centre of "old Crosby" Mr William Lightfoot, aged 78, pensioner, said he had changed his lifelong Conservative voting habit to the SDP/Liberal Alliance because he did not like the way pensioners were being affected by the economy.

In Formby, Mr David Davies, sales executive aged 38, and his wife, Valerie, 37, said they had voted for Mrs Williams after nearly 20 years' support of Labour.

Mr Robert Sinclair, a 32 year old railway porter from Davenham Road, said that he had voted for Mrs Williams, having previously voted Liberal.

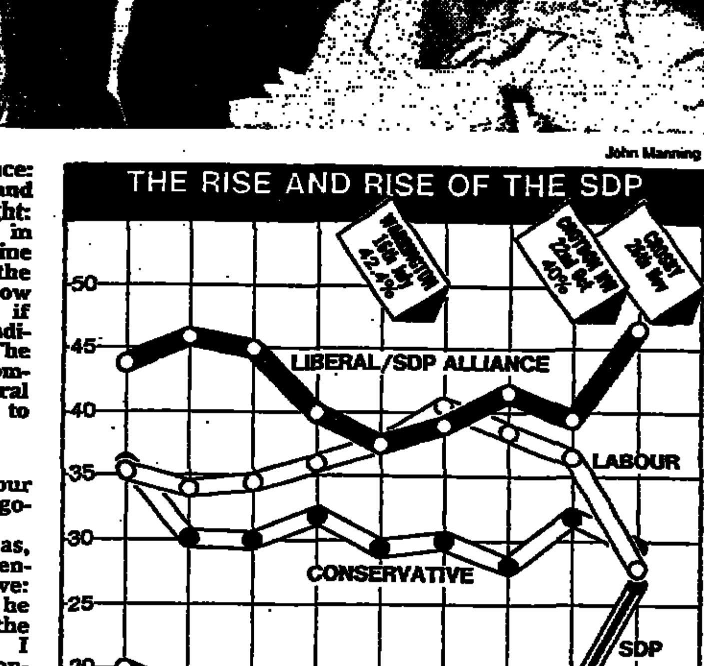
In Waterloo, a predominantly Conservative area, SDP voters offered these comments: Mr Robert and Mrs Edith Hayward, aged 39 and 37. He is an unemployed textile worker, she is a housewife; both formerly voted Labour: "The Conservatives in this neighbourhood have reigned long enough and there is too much going on in the Labour Party with members antagonizing each other.

Mr Frederick Thomas, aged 64, retired bank messenger, formerly Conservative: "I'm not voting for he Communists, which is all the Labour Party is, and I couldn't vote for the Conservatives because of the mess they have got us into."



John Manning

The smiling faces of alliance: David Steel, Roy Jenkins and Shirley Williams. Right: Party standings this year in the Gallup poll. The top line plots response to the "prompted" question how voters would choose if Liberal-SDP Alliance candidates, were standing. The result is higher than combined responses for Liberal and SDP alone and close to actual results.



Local voting share matches national polls

By Ian Bradley

The SDP-Liberal Alliance is now winning about two-thirds of the seats it is contesting in local government by-elections and, if anything, its success rate is increasing.

According to figures obtained from the two parties since the beginning of July, the SDP has won 35 seats on county, district and borough councils and the Liberals have gained 48 seats from other parties as well as holding 10 seats. In that period the Conservatives have lost 40 seats and Labour 27.

In the past three weeks, the Liberals have contested 14 local government by-elections, winning seven and holding two. Precise details of the number of seats contested by the SDP are not available, but the party says that it has won 19 seats in that period.

Overall, so far this month the alliance has taken 10 seats from the Conservatives and seven from Labour. The SDP has gained seats in Southwark, Selby (North Yorkshire), Crediton (Devon), Shoreham, Witton (Cheshire), Newbridge (Gwent), Harwich, Bridgnorth (Salop), Hemel Hempstead, Lancaster, mid-Sussex, Adur Valley and Islwyn (Wales). The Liberals have gained seats in Stockton, Chester-le-Street, north Cornwall, Truro, mid-Devon, Harwich and mid-Sussex.

The most detailed analysis of the alliance's progress in local by-elections has been made by Mr Peter Kellner, political editor of the *New Statesman*. His latest compilation of results is published today.

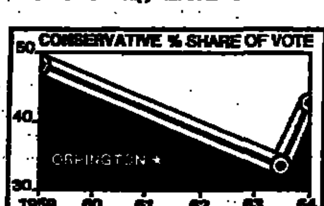
It shows that since October 22 the alliance has won 38 of 57 local government contests. The breakdown of the total votes cast in those contests is Liberal/SDP 46 per cent, Labour 27 per cent and Conservative 25 per cent.

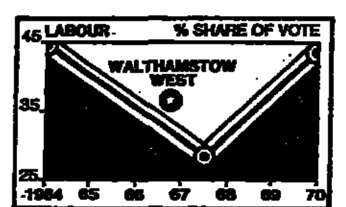
That share-out of the vote is very similar to the findings of opinion polls about national voting intentions, averaged out over the past three months. The average of the findings of MORI polls over that period, for example, shows the alliance with 42 per cent of the vote, Labour with 31 per cent and the Conservatives with 26 per cent.

The swing from the Conservatives to the Alliance since the last general election, represented by the local by-election results (23 per cent), is also almost the same as in the Croydon by-election (24 per cent). It is this extraordinary coincidence of figures from local government by-elections, parliamentary by-election results and the findings of opinion polls which has led psephologists to see the Alliance's popularity as something more than a mid-term flash in the pan.

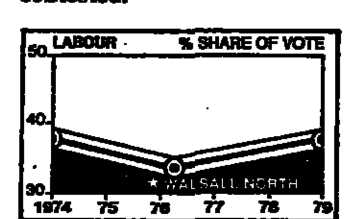
The *New Statesman* analysis also clearly shows the gathering momentum of the SDP-Liberal challenge to the two established parties. Until the Warrington by-election on July 16, Labour was still making steady gains and Liberal and SDP candidates were failing in three seats out of four.

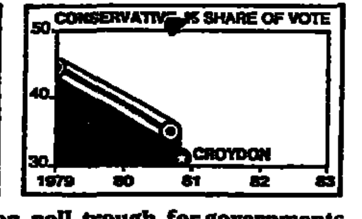
Between the Warrington and the Croydon by-elections, Labour was losing more seats than it was gaining, and the Alliance became the most popular political force in the country. Since then, the Alliance has been winning more than two thirds of the seats it has contested.

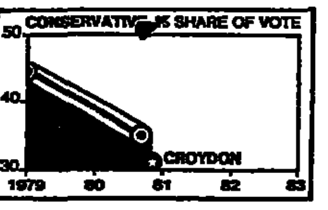




CONSERVATIVE % SHARE OF VOTE — SUTTON AND CHEAM — 1970 71 72 73 74







How ruling parties pull back from mid-term slumps and their worst by-election reverses. The lines depict the opinion poll trough for governments since 1959, and the flattening slope of recovery from their worst by-elections.

The quick mind of a quicker dresser

By George Clark

Open, approachable, controversial, Mrs Shirley Williams is the journalist's perfect politician. Over the years she has shown a willingness to be quoted on almost every subject under the sun.

"Sorry, I'm late" is probably one of her classic remarks

And again: "I am a very disorderly person. My mind is organized, but my habits are not. No matter where I am, I live in a state of considerable squalor". (*Evening News*, December 5, 1973).

Here is a selection of quotations which reflect her character and her attitude to politics:

"I'm only prepared to spend 10 minutes dressing, so what can you expect? . . . You might well say, why am I in public life at all? I just don't understand it at all. Perhaps it is because I have confidence in my mind, but not in the way I look"—*The Guardian*, August 2, 1971.

"If I got fed up with the Labour Party, I should simply leave politics altogether"—*The Daily Telegraph*, June 13, 1979.

"I would not join a centre party because I believe the whole idea is wrong . . . So far as I am concerned, I will always be in a party to the left of centre."—*The Sunday Telegraph*, November 30, 1980.

"Modern Trotskyism, like the Trotskyism of Trotsky himself, holds liberty and democracy in total comtempt. Its vision of socialism has nothing to do with the British Labour Party's vision."—*The Guardian*, January 22, 1977.

"The party I loved and worked for over so many years no longer exists . . . it is not the democratic socialist party that I joined." — Letter to Mr Ron Hayward, general secretary of the Labour Party, February 10, 1981.

"As a party, we just have not caught on to the fact that the woman voter often decides differently from her husband . . . The concentration on industry, the balance of payments, trade union questions, does not appeal much to most women. We must get across to them that we do care about pensions and schools, poverty and ill health." — After Labour's defeat in 1979.

"One of the fields chiefly responsible for the continued poverty of the level of expectation of girls is the mass media. You have a particular responsibilty to see that the image of woman put before our daughters is no longer that of an auxiliary, accessory and essentially secondary creature." — Address to Women in Media, June 28, 1973.

"We want to get real muscle behind consumer protection. We do not want to leave shoppers out on their own . . . We will back you by law." — To Labour Party women's conference, June, 1974.

"Elections are like actresses: their moods can change suddenly. In this election, the central question is how to curb inflation, but so far we have not really confronted it." — *The Times*, February 18, 1974.

"Mrs Thatcher [when dealing with male colleagues] does not import sex into it. But she does import a tremendous scolding-mother or headmistress thing. She seems to adopt all the stereotypes of the authoritarian woman, and it is quite impressive in a way, the queen, the governess, the nanny, the headmistress, the matron — she strikes the lot." — *The Observer*, March 22, 1981.

"Roy [Jenkins] likes claret, so what? I drink Hirondelle, so what? None of us leads a particularly posh life, and in any event a liking for good food and drink is as common among the left as anywhere." — *The Sunday Times*, April 5, 1981.

"We intend to ensure that all secondary pupils are educated in comprehensive schools and will, if necessary, take fresh statutory powers to ensure this." — Letter to Mr Ron Hayward, January 1, 1978.

Asked, when she was Minister of Education, whether she wanted to be Prime Minister she replied, "No — this job is tough enough." — *Women's Own*, August 6, 1977.

Question of immoral purpose is for the jury to decide

Regina v Grey

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Taylor and Mr Justice McCullough.

[Judgment delivered November 26]

The question whether the purposes of homosexual activity were "immoral purposes" within section 32 of the Sexual Offences Act 1956 was a jury question, and when a judge refused to leave the question to the jury and directed them that such purposes were immoral, there was both a material irregularity in the course of the trial and a misdirection by the judge.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by James Burns McWilliams Grey, aged 31, an accounts clerk, of Earl's Court, London, from conviction at the Central Criminal Court (Judge Clarke) of having contravened section 32 by persistently importuning for an immoral purpose in a public place in August 1979. An appeal against sentence of nine months' imprisonment suspended for two years was allowed and a fine of £100 substituted.

Mr Brian Langstaff (assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals) for the appellant; Mr Stephen Clayton for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the prosecution evidence was that a plain clothes police officer was waiting in a doorway in Earl's Court at night, when, as frequently occurred then, many male homosexuals were congregating outside a public house. The appellant, who was sauntering around and smiling at and speaking to other people, then smiled at the officer, clearly believing him to be a homosexual. After a short conversation the officer was invited by the appellant back to his flat where, he said, there was whisky and they could both spend the night. His purpose could only have been that they should have homosexual relations at the flat.

The appellant in evidence stated that he had gone to the place hoping to find a shop open where he could buy food for his cat and, being a homosexual, liked to view the spectacle outside the public house. He spoke only to the officer and invited him to the flat for whisky but had not said anything about staying the night and denied that his purpose was to have homosexual relations.

On the contrary, the officer looked miserable and out of place and, the appellant thought, might be having difficulty in coming to terms with a homosexual condition and be helped by conversation with someone who had experienced the same problems. The appellant was a former member of an organization which gave advice to homosexuals.

The judge made it clear to the jury that they should not convict the appellant unless they were sure that his purpose was to engage in some homosexual activity with anyone he might persuade to go home with him.

When Mr Langstaff had begun to ask the jury to consider whether they were sure that the appellant's purpose, if it was to engage in such activity, amounted to "immoral purposes", He was interrupted by the judge and told in the jury's presence that he proposed to direct them that as a matter of law such purposes were immoral. He refused to hear argument in the jury's absence, and in summing up as good as told the jury that such purposes were immoral.

In *R v Ford (Graham)* ([1977] 1WLR1083) the question had been left to the jury and whether it was necessary to do so was not in argument. In *Crook v Edmondson* ([1966] QB 81) two members of the court apparently treated the question as one of law. Without expressing any view whether that decision was right, their Lordships in the present case thought, as Lord Widgery said in *Ford*, that the question was one for the jury.

The judge directed the jury that it was no longer an offence for two adult males to behave sexually with each other in private but had in effect said that, if the purpose of one was to take another home for private homosexual activity, they might think, although it was a matter for them, that despite the fact that such activity was lawful the purpose was immoral.

Their Lordships were satisfied that Mr Langstaff was right in saying that the judge failed to leave the question to the jury. There was, therefore, both a material irregularity in that he was prevented from deploying his argument, and a misdirection.

His Lordship reviewed the legislative history from 1896 and stated that from 1967 onwards Parliament's intention or contemplation could not have been that, whereas soliciting in public for the purposes of heterosexual prostitution was to remain unlawful, it would or might be lawful for some homosexuals and even some homosexual prostitutes to solicit in public.

Whether *Crook v Edmonson* was correctly decided, Parliament in using the phrase "importuning for immoral purposes" had no intention of excluding importuning by males for the purposes of engaging in homosexual activity.

Plainly from the verdict the jury rejected the appellant's evidence and accepted the police officer's. That being so, their Lordships had to ask themselves whether they thought it possible that, having heard Mr Langstaff's argument and having been properly directed, the jury could have done other than convict.

In asking themselves that question their Lordships were conscious of the fact that in the field of contemporary morals judges might not be best fitted to assess the attitudes of the mass of right thinking members of society. But the views of Parliament might be regarded as reflective of such opinion, and taking them into account as they appeared from the legislative history and making due allowance for the passage of years since 1967 they found strong confirmation of their own belief as to the attitudes of society in general.

It was a belief shared by the members of the court in *Ford* and, more importantly, by every member of the jury who tried that case. For those reasons their Lordships had concluded that, once the appellant's evidence was rejected and that of the officer accepted, the jury would inevitably have convicted. On that aspect of the matter there was nothing unsafe or unsatisfactory about the conviction.

It was a case in which it would be right to apply the proviso to section 2 (1) of the Criminal Appeal Act, 1968 and to dismiss the appeal against conviction on the ground that no miscarriage of justice had occurred.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

In *Hunter v Chief Constable of the West Midlands Police and Others* (*The Times* November 26) the name of Mr Brian Hill, Preston, was omitted from the list of solicitors.

In *Hyde v Pearce* (*The Times* November 26) instructing solicitors for the plaintiff were M. H. Greet & Co, Bristol, who replaced Veale, Benson in April 1981.

Intentionally homeless by quitting before eviction

Din and Another v Mayor and Burgesses of the London Borough of Wandsworth

Before Lord Wilberforce, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Lowry and Lord Bridge of Harwich

[Speeches delivered November 26]

The House of Lords by a majority (Lord Russell and Lord Bridge dissenting), held that under the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977 a local housing authority was entitled to treat an applicant as having rendered himself intentionally homeless where he had moved out of a house voluntarily instead of staying on until he was evicted by a court order for possession.

The House dismissed an appeal by Mr Taj Din and his wife from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Waller and Lord Justice Ackner, Lord Justice Donaldson dissenting, *The Times*, June 30), which had allowed an appeal by Wandsworth London Borough Council from Judge White in Wandsworth County Court under the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977.

The Din family, with four children, moved into accommodation in Trinity Road, Wandsworth, in 1977, but they got into difficulties over the payment of rent and rates. They sought advice from the local housing authority and were advised that before they could be helped there would have to be a court order.

In August 1979, the Din family left Trinity Road and went to live with a relative in a flat in Upminster which was far too small for any prolonged stay. Mr Din had hoped to get employment at Ford Motors at Dagenham, but was unsuccessful. He returned in November to his former job in Wandsworth. Commuting from Upminster proved too expensive, so he took a temporary room in Wandsworth. By December, the tensions in the Upminster flat were such that his family had to leave.

On December 20, Mr Din and his wife went to Wandsworth aid centre claiming to be homeless. The authorities made inquiries and decided that the family were intentionally homeless within the terms of section 17 of the 1977 Act.

Judge White, in their action for damages and an injunction, said that the family's application was not made until about four months after they first became homeless and that by the end of December they would have been homeless in any event. He concluded that the council had not taken that fact into account, for if they had done so they could not have decided that the family were intentionally homeless. He awarded them inter alia, damages and a declaration that the local authority's determination was void. The Court of Appeal by a majority reversed that order.

Section 17 provides; "(1) . . . for the purposes of this Act a person becomes homeless intentionally if he deliberately does or fails to do anything in consequence of which he ceases to occupy accommodation which is available for his occupation and which it would have been reasonable for him to continue to occupy . . .

"(3) An act or omission in good faith on the part of a person who was unaware of any relevant fact is not to be treated as deliberate for the purposes of subsection (1) . . .

"(4) Regard may be had, in determining for the purposes of subsections (1) and (2) above whether it would have been reasonable for a person to continue to occupy accommodation, to the general circumstances prevailing in relation to housing in the area of the housing authority to whom he applied for accommodation or for assistance in obtaining accommodation."

Mr Stephen Sedley and Mr Nicholas Blake for the applicants; Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC, and Mr Geoffrey Stephenson for the local authority.

LORD WILBERFORCE, dismissing the appeal, said that the question was, or ought to be, whether the housing aid centre in refusing the Dins' application in December 1979 on the ground that they were intentionally homeless erred in law. His Lordship said "ought to be" because the procedure adopted by the Dins was to sue the local authority in the county court for damages and a mandatory injunction to house them. That resulted in a trial with witnesses of issues of fact.

The 1977 Act was an important measure imposing for the first time on housing authorities a duty to accommodate or assist homeless persons. There had been previous legislative provisions for the benefit of the homeless but they suffered from weakness of definition and of means of enforcement. The 1977 Act made use of provisions of the Housing Act 1957 relating to families occupying unsatisfactory housing conditions by bringing homeless persons within it and imposing on local authorities independent duties under that Act.

In applying and interpreting the 1977 Act it was important to bear in mind:

(1) It was designed for the expressed purpose of bringing families together.

(2) It formed part of a complex of duties which local authorities owed to categories of persons seeking housing. Those persons were normally placed on a waiting list and were given accommodation on a points system of priority. Inevitably every allocation of priority housing to homeless persons must have the effect of deferring the hopes of persons in other categories, some of whom might have been waiting for a long time.

(3) A decision against priority treatment under the Act did not mean that nothing could be done for the homeless applicants. They could join the waiting list for a council tenancy — Mrs Din did so in June 1979 — or they could seek nomination to a housing association, or, with advice, they could seek private-sector housing, with temporary accommodation meanwhile.

(4) As the Act recognised, conditions might and did differ greatly from one authority to another, and those might be taken into account. The Act must be interpreted in the light of those matters: with liberality having regard to its social purposes, and also with recognition of the claims of others and the nature and scale of local authorities' responsibilities.

It should be noticed that the Secretary of State had power under section 12 to give guidance to local authorities, and that he had done through a prescribed code of guidance. That emphasized that it was for the authorities to satisfy themselves whether an applicant became homeless intentionally and that careful and sensitive inquiries would be important.

His Lordship summarized the relevant statutory provisions. Section 4 defined the duties of local authorities. If they were satisfied that a person was homeless, or threatened with homelessness, and that he had a priority need, but were also satisfied that he became homeless, or threatened with homelessness, intentionally, the duty was to furnish him with advice and appropriate assistance.

If they were satisfied, as above, but not satisfied that he became homeless intentionally, the duty was to secure that accommodation became available for him. That was subject to certain considerations as to local connexions with the authority's area.

The words "are satisfied" had to be noted: they left the decision, on those issues of fact, to the local authority. On well-known principle, there was no appeal to a court against such a decision, but it might be subject to judicial review for error in law, including no doubt absence of any material on which the decision could reasonably be reached.

Section 8 contained safeguards as regarded any decision of a local authority. The applicant had to be notified of it, and, in particular, if the authority notified him that they were satisfied that he became homeless intentionally, they must notify him of their reasons.

On those provisions the Din case had to be decided. Could they successfully challenge the local authority's decision that it was satisfied that they became homeless intentionally within the section 17(1) definition?

His Lordship said that he had reservations as to proceedings in the county court. The local authority was carrying out statutory functions and was required to make a decision based on findings of fact. Its decision could be the subject of judicial review but county courts had no power to make that.

A procedure achieving the same result by county court action appeared to have been approved in *De Falco v Crawley Borough Council* ([1980] QB 460) and his Lordship would assume its validity for the purpose of the appeal. So he was prepared to take the evidence at the trial into consideration.

Mr Din in his evidence said that the only reason that compelled him to quit 56 Trinity Road was a rate demand — he was scared. A council officer confirmed that that was what Mr Din told the housing centre.

The head of the housing department said that the reason why the local authority generally insisted on a court order was because of the impossible shortage of accommodation. A few weeks were of extreme importance on financial grounds and as affecting the pressure on the stock.

He did not accept that Mr Din had to leave Trinity Road in June 1979, though he accepted that in December "there was no possibility of him staying". That imprecision, as regarded time, on that evidence was to be noted.

So how did the matter stand? If one took the words of the Act, the council had to be satisfied that the applicants became homeless intentionally. Under section 4(2)(b) their duty was limited to advice and assistance if "they are satisfied . . . that [they] became homeless . . . intentionally". The time factors there were clearly indicated: at the time of decision (the present) the local authority had to look at the time (the past) when the applicants became homeless, and consider whether their action then was intentional in the statutory sense.

If that was the right approach there could only be one answer: when the Dins left Trinity Road their action was intentional and the council were entitled to find that it would have been reasonable for the Dins to continue to occupy their Trinity Road home.

The applicants' argument against that was that whatever might have been the position in July 1979 when they left Trinity Road, they would at the time of the decision in December 1979 have been homeless in any event. The original cause of homelessness, even if intentional, had ceased to operate. For section 17 to apply there had to be a causal nexus between the intentional action and the homelessness subsisting at the time of the decision. On the facts of the case there was not so the decision was wrong in law. His Lordship could not accept that argument.

1 It could not be reconciled with the wording of the Act. That was completely and repeatedly clear in concentrating attention on when the applicants became homeless and requiring the intention to be ascertained as at that time. To achieve the result desired by the applicants would need either distortion of or reading in a number of words. Both were radical and awkward reconstructions of section 17.

2 Such an interpretation, or reconstruction of the Act was not called for by any purposive approach. The Act reflected a complex interplay of interests. It conferred great benefits on one category of persons in need of housing, to the detriment of others. So it did not seem unreasonable that, in order to benefit from the priority provisions, persons in the first category should bring themselves within the plain words. Failure to do so involved greater expense for a hard pressed authority, and greater pressure on the housing stock.

3 The applicants' interpretation added greatly to the local authority's difficulty in administering the Act. It required the authority, as well as investigating the original and actual cause of homelessness, to inquire into hypotheses involving uncertain attitudes of landlords, rating authorities, the applicants themselves, and even intervening physical events. On the other hand, the council's contention involved a straightforward inquiry into the circumstances in which the applicants became homeless.

4 The applicants' argument was not assisted by *Dyson v Kerrier District Council* ((1980) 78 LGR 603). That case merely decided that a disqualification for priority by reason of an intentional surrender was not displaced by obtaining temporary accommodation, since it could be displaced by obtaining "settled" accommodation.

5 It did not follow from accepting the local authority's argument that occupants who moved before a notice to quit took effect would be held to be intentionally homeless.

His Lordship agreed therefore with the majority of the Court of Appeal in holding that the present case fell squarely within the provisions of the Act as to intentional homelessness and there was no justification from reading those provisions other than in their natural sense. He would dismiss the appeal.

LORD FRASER, concurring in dismissing the appeal, said that the material question was why the applicant became homeless, not why he was homeless at the date of the inquiry. If he actually became homeless deliberately, the fact that he might, or would, have been homeless for other reasons at the date of the inquiry was irrelevant.

LORD RUSSELL, for allowing the appeal, said that the correct conclusion in law turned on a short point. The crucial question in the appeal was raised by the fact that by December 1979, the Din family would in any event have been evicted from the Trinity Road accommodation. In his Lordship's view the *Dyson* case was the opposite of the present.

His Lordship understood the reasoning of those of their Lordships with whom he differed, but he preferred to consider the statute more broadly, though not seeking to add to the language. The inquiries and conclusions of the authority fell to be made at (or after) the application. Was the applicant then homeless? Had he then a priority need?

In his Lordship's opinion the investigation of the question whether he became homeless intentionally, which was to be made at the same time, was directed to why he was homeless then. If on the facts established in the present case the applicant would be homeless in any event, the past circumstances in which the homelessness originated appeared to be no longer relevant.

LORD LOWRY, dismissing the appeal, commented on the volume of litigation resulting from decisions of housing authorities in their administration of the Act. All that strongly indicated the need for Parliament to review the legislation in the light of experience.

There was here no question of queue-jumping or other unmeritorious conduct. But applying the law to the facts his Lordship was coerced to hold that the applicants lost their priority by becoming homeless in a relevant way.

LORD BRIDGE, for allowing the appeal, said that it raised the question of how the 1977 Act applied to a person with a priority need who voluntarily left accommodation prematurely. That expression was used to describe the action of a person whose tenure of accommodation had become so precarious, owing to circumstances for which he could not be held responsible, that it could be foreseen that within some reasonably short period he would have to leave in any event, but who chose to move out at a time when the housing authority could properly conclude that it would have been reasonable for him to continue in occupation.

Take the case of a person who received a summons for possession with a hearing date two months ahead, who recognized that he would have no defence to the claim, and moved out immediately. On a date, say, four months later, being homeless and in priority need, he applied to the housing authority for accommodation under the Act. The authority might take the view that on receipt of the summons it would have been reasonable for him to continue in occupation at least until the hearing of the summons but that when the summons was heard an order for possession to take effect within at most six weeks would have been made. What was their duty?

Under the Act there were three questions, relevant for present purposes, which the housing authority must ask and answer: (i) Was the applicant homeless? (ii) Had he a priority need? (iii) Did he become homeless intentionally — applying the formula in section 17(1)?

In answering the first two questions, the authority were clearly concerned with the applicant's circumstances at the date of application. It would be absurd to hold that the housing authority were at liberty to rely on any past act or omission of the applicant which satisfied the section 17 formula but which was not causally related to the applicant's present state of homelessness.

Thus on the true construction of sections 3 and 4 and in the application of section 17(1), the third question might be expanded: "Is the applicant's present homelessness the result of a deliberate act or omission on his part in consequence of which he ceased to occupy accommodation which was available for his occupation and which it would have been reasonable for him to continue to occupy?"

Asking that question in the circumstances of the example of the person who left accommodation prematurely when he received the summons for possession, the housing authority must necessarily give it a negative answer. By the time he applied for accommodation the fact that he left prematurely had no causal connexion with his present homelessness. He would now be homeless in any event.

His Lordship considered that the county court judge had formulated with precise accuracy the proper test to be applied by the authority in deciding whether the applicants had become homeless intentionally and demonstrated the error vitiating their decision which entitled the court to treat it as invalid.

He had said: "Put simply on the facts of this case the question that the [council] should have asked themselves was — even if the Dins had complied with the advice given to them in June and July and had remained where they were would they, by the time of their application, have been homeless in any event? The [council] clearly did not consider the point. Had they asked themselves the question the answer on the evidence would have had to be 'yes'."

His Lordship was not sorry to reach that conclusion. It would seem to him a great injustice if a homeless person in priority need having once left accommodation prematurely, no matter how short the period for which the accommodation would have remained available and in which it would have been reasonable for him to continue to occupy it, might thereafter be treated as intentionally homeless for an indefinite period and thus disqualified from claiming the major benefit which the Act conferred.

His Lordship wondered what chance the class of homeless person in priority need who was driven to rely on the housing authority's assistance under the Act had of finding a settled residence by is own efforts. If the Wandsworth authority put the applicants on the street, as presumably they would if the appeal failed, the most likely outcome must surely be that the family would be broken up and the children taken into care.

His Lordship fully appreciated the pressures to which housing authorities were subject and the reasons why they were loth to accept the burden of providing accommodation until it was irresistibly forced on them. But in cases where eviction in due course could be foreseen as inevitable it would surely be more reasonable for the housing authority to accept their rehousing responsibility voluntarily, possibly on a date to be agreed with the landlord who was entitled to recover possession, without putting him to the expense of litigation.

Solicitors: Fisher Meredith; Mrs Susan G Smith.

Solicitor as agent

Lawrence Chemical Company Ltd v Rubinstein and Others

A declaration signed by a solicitor on behalf of a company that goods and chattels situated on industrial premises against which distress had been levied by the superior landlord for arrears of rent was a valid declaration within the provisions of section 1 of the Law of Distress Amendment Act 1908. The Court of Appeal (Sir John Arnold, President, Lord Justice O'Connor and Sir Stanley Rees) allowed an appeal on November 16 from the dismissal by Mr Justice McNeill of the company's application for an interlocutory injunction restraining the respondents from selling or attempting to sell or otherwise dispose of the goods and chattels.

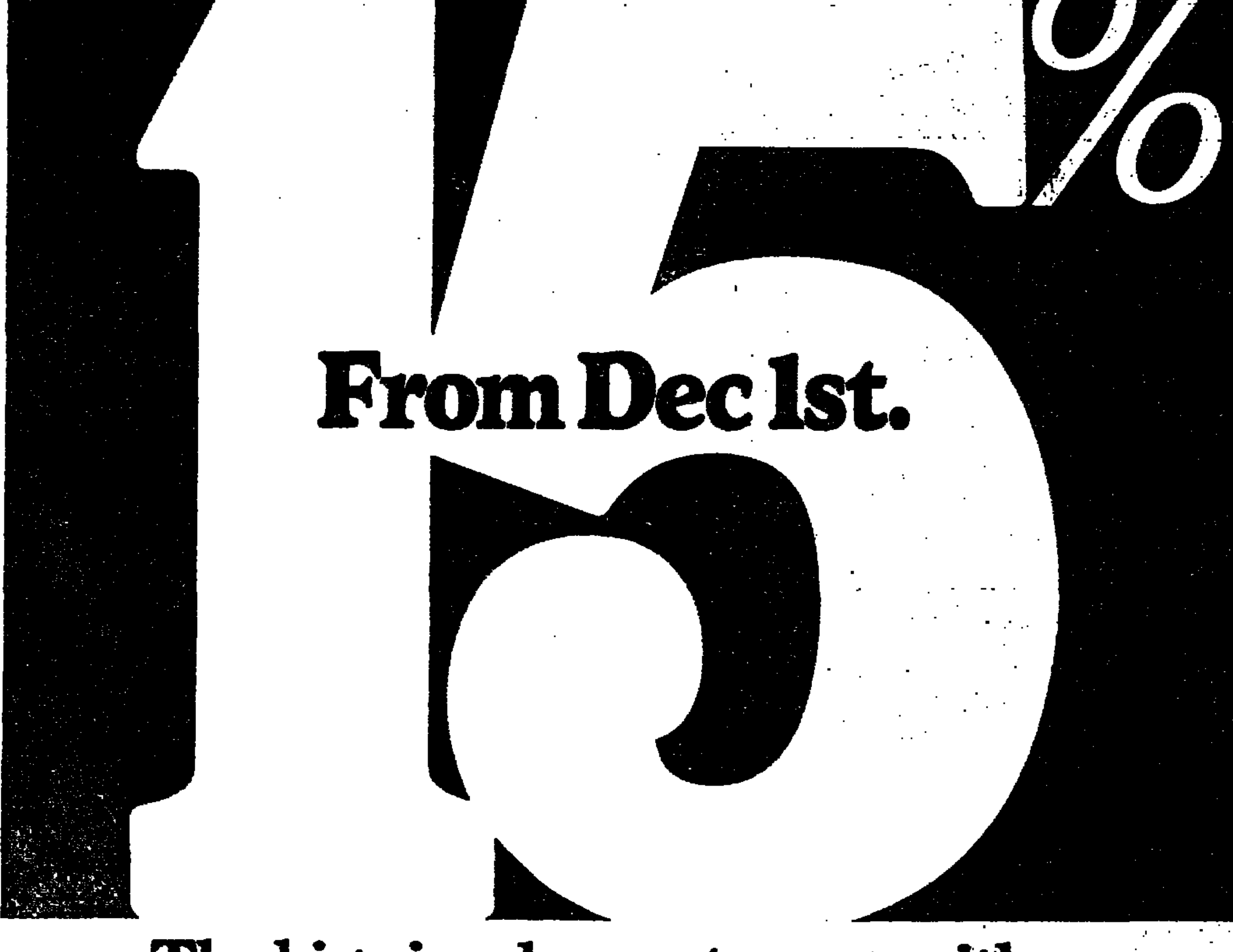
THE PRESIDENT said that Mr Justice McNeill had taken the view that the declaration had to be signed by a director or secretary of the company as otherwise it would not be a declaration of the company. In the present case the solicitor had been authorized by oral instruction from a director of the company. The principle of agency applied. There was a sufficient compliance with the requirements of the Act of 1908 by the signing of the declaration by the solicitor who was the duly authorized agent of the company.

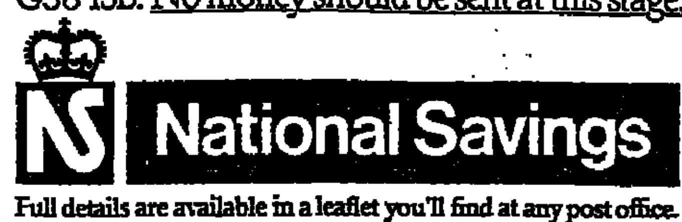
Lord Justice O'Connor and Sir Stanley Rees agreed.

NO 'YORK' IN TRADE MARK

In re York Trailer Holdings Ltd

The House of Lords (Lord Wilberforce, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Lowry and Lord Bridge of Harwich) allowed on November 19 a "leapfrog" appeal from Mr Justice Graham by the Registrar of Trade Marks and held that an application by a manufacturer to register a trade mark incorporating the word "York" had been correctly refused by the registrar. *Liverpool Electric Cable Co Ltd's Application* ((1929) 46 RPC 99) as approved in *Yorkshire Copper Works Ltd's Application* ((1954) 71 RPC 150) applied.





Moscow detects change of tone in Washington

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Nov 26

The Russians today openly acknowledged that President Brezhnev's visit to Bonn ended in disagreement on the central issue of arms control in Europe, but declared the talks a success because both sides had tried to build bridges rather than deepen ditches.

At the same time a leading Soviet ideologist and several influential newspapers have significantly moderated their attacks on President Reagan's recent proposals for arms control, and spoken of a change of tone in Washington. Though the change cannot be linked directly to the Bonn talks, the Russians are clearly ready to approach the Geneva negotiations more constructively than a week ago.

Mr Brezhnev returned to a warm welcome yesterday. The Soviet press immediately hailed the results of his visit, his third to West Germany within a decade, as a pointer to the future and a reaffirmation of the principle of good-neighbourly relations. As expected, the Soviet leader has been effusively praised for his "mission of goodwill".

For Moscow, the visit has achieved several important things. On the eve of the Geneva talks it has put the Soviet viewpoint in the forefront of the world's attention, and the Russians have heard Herr Helmut Schmidt, the influential West German Chancellor, publicly declare the Soviet Union was sincere in its search for peace.

It has shown that in spite of Afghanistan the Russians are still able to engage in serious dialogue with the West. It has underlined the importance of Soviet-West German relations, especially in the economic field, and thus preserved the *cornerstone of Mr Brezhnev's* policy of détente, a word now used again by Herr Schmidt.

It has demonstrated to Russians at home that Mr Brezhnev, who is nearly 75 and frequently in poor health, is still able to cope with complex issues and lead sensitive negotiations overseas.

Nevertheless, the differences between both sides have been bluntly acknowledged, both in the final communiqué and in the Soviet Press. If the Russians were looking for a wavering in the West German commitment to accept new Nato missiles, they were disappointed.

The renewed Soviet call for a moratorium in the deployment of all medium-range weapons was again rejected. And the other Soviet proposals drew equally sparse response, whether from the West German Government or from the European peace movements on which the Russians have placed so much importance.

There has been some movement on the Soviet side, however. The Russians have had to respond to President Reagan's call, warmly supported in much of Europe, for a "zero option". They have put forward a utopian version of their own which includes all weapons, including tactical weapons, and all the forces Moscow would like to discuss at Geneva. But Moscow now appears to be ready to work by stages, as suggested by Herr Schmidt, towards such a utopia.

More importantly, Moscow now appears ready to consider Mr Reagan's proposals at least as an American negotiating position. Soviet rejection of his plan is still categoric: Mr Brezhnev and Mr Leonid Zamyatin, his official spokesman, set out their objections in Bonn.

But although Herr Schmidt complained that the Russians were incapable of properly appreciating the American offer, Soviet ideologists are now saying that the important point was that after so much warlike talk Washington was now talking about peace.

Mr Boris Ponomaryov, an influential candidate member of the Politburo, told a Prague meeting of Soviet block ideologists that the Soviet Union was ready to discuss all disarmament issues with the Americans. He implicitly suggested that if the Reagan offer was not simply propaganda, as the Russians have branded it, there were prospects for success at Geneva. Western diplomats here say the fact that he spoke on the same theme to Moscow's East European allies at the same time as Mr Brezhnev was discussing arms control in Bonn was probably intentional. He first reassured the Soviet Union's allies, by saying his country would never allow negotiations to result in Nato military superiority over the Warsaw Pact. But he then suggested, echoing Mr Brezhnev, that the Russians were ready for serious negotiations.

His speech was probably prepared before the Bonn visit and there is no evidence that Herr Schmidt's mediation caused a change of line. The Russians may have wanted to sweeten the atmosphere before Geneva in any case.

But, significantly, other commentators here are now echoing this more positive assessment. *Literaturnaya Gazeta* said yesterday that the Reagan offer was full of tricks and could not be taken seriously by thinking people. "But this is not the main point. The most important thing is that Mr Reagan has spoken about peace and about negotiations, including talks about reducing arms in Europe", it added.

Nevertheless, the attacks on the Reagan Administration's other policies and statements have remained as shrill as ever. Tass today again denounced American plans for a limited nuclear war, while other papers continue to suggest that the Americans are aiming only for military superiority.

Arms offer renewed by Reagan

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Nov 26

President Reagan today reaffirmed the offer he made a week ago to cancel the deployment of American medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe if the Soviet Union agreed in return to remove all of its similar missiles which are targeted against West Europe.

Interview by Barbara Walters o nABC television, President Reagan was asked to respond to the rejection by President Brezhnev, of the offer not to go ahead with Nato's plan to deploy 572 Pershing 2 and land-based cruise missiles starting in 1983.

The President noted that although Mr Brezhnev had rejected this offer during his visit to West Germany earlier this week, he had nevertheless proopsed a unilateral reduction in the number of SS20s and other Soviet medium-range missiles targeted against Western Europe.

"Well, you start bargaining from there," declared the President. "We'll negotiate in good faith, but we'll do everything we can to get it to zero."

Talks on reducing medium-range missiles in Europe are to begin in Geneva

The President said that the Russians had a direct interest in talking about reducing nuclear weapons because the United States was beginning to strengthen its own defences.

Ceausescu sees hope for Europe

Vienna, Nov 26.—President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania said last night that American and Soviet offers on nuclear disarmament have revived hopes for a Europe free of nuclear weapons.

Mr Ceausescu, the only Soviet block leader not to dismiss President Reagan's offer for a mutual ban on medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, told the Romanian party central committee he welcomed President Brezhnev's proposals in Bonn earlier this week.

"We also assess as a positive element the statement recently made by the President of the United States", Mr Ceaususcu said, according to the official Agerpres news agency. "Undoubtedly, essential differences exist between the statements of the Soviet and American leaders. But we consider the basic element is that the two sides wish to reach an understanding . . . on freeing our continent from the atomic weapon."

In a ference to next week's United States-Soviet disarmament talks, Mr Ceausescu said: "These statements revive the hope of European and world opinion that at the negotiations in Geneva . . . action will be taken for reaching accord on the elimination of both medium-range nuclear weapons and of any kind of nuclear armament from Europe."

Reuters

Support for Schmidt

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Nov 26

President Reagan has told Herr Helmut Schmidt that he was very encouraged by the Chancellor's two days of talks with President Brezhnev, a Government spokesman said today.

The Chancellor reported to the President in a 20-minute telephone conversation yesterday on the outcome of the talks, which were dominated by the forthcoming missile negotirtions in Geneva.

Herr Lothar Rühl, the spokesman, said President Reagan expressed his satisfaction. He said the Chancellor's firm attitude and the course the talks took were "*very encouraging*".

He also reliterated the point, which the Chancellor had repeatedly emphasized to the Soviet leader that the United States is determined to negotiate seriously on a balanced reduction of medium-range nuclear missiles.

Mr Paul Nitze, the chief American negotiator will call on Herr Schmidt at his home in Hamburg on Saturday on his way to Geneva where the talks begin on Monday.

The Chancellor is expected to brief Mr Nitze on what he has learnt of the Soviet attitude to the negotiations, its probable approach and his views about any areas where they might be prepared to make concessions.

West Germany, the country most directly affected by the talks, has considerable influence on the Western negotiating position through the Nato special consultative group which worked out the mandate. At the same time, it will seek to influence and pressure the Soviet Union through diplomatic channels.

Geneva: Two tough protagonists in front line

The Russians will face one of America's shrewdest and toughest negotiators when talks between the two countries on reducing medium-range missiles in Europe open in Geneva on Monday (Nicholas Ashford writes from Washington).

Mr Paul Nitze earned himself the reputation of a "super-hawk" during the debate over the second Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (Salt 2) negotiated by the Carter Administration.

But no matter how much his critics disagreed with him on this issue, they acknowledged that he did his homework assiduously and had wide experience in national security affairs.

Mr Nitze will draw on that experience in the talks on intermediate range missiles in Europe which are expected to be lengthy and tough. As a member of the Salt 1 team, he is familiar with the negotiating approach used by the Russians in arms talks.

As a bitter critic of Salt 2, his mere presence at the negotiating table will be sufficient to tell the Russians that they cannot expect to reach an agreement which in any way might leave either the United States or its Nato allies at a disadvantage.

Urbane, articulate and silver-haired, Mr Nitze, aged 74, has served nearly all presidents since the Second World War.

Since that time, when he was vice-chairman of the United States Stvategic Bombing Survey, a post that gave him a first-hand look at the effects of the atomic bombs on Japan, he has held a host of positions in government and business rising to become Deputy Secretary of Defence under President Johnson.

But it will be his experience as a member of the Salt 1 negotiating team between 1969 to 1974 that will be most important during the forthcoming talks. He resigned in 1974 when it became clear that what he called the Watergate "crimes" of President Nixon had undermined the American negotiating position.

According to an interview Mr Nitze gave to the *Christian Science Monitor*, his experience in negotiating with the Russians taught him that "they understand strength and firmness, but do not necessarily *respond to unilateral restraint*".

Mr Nitze became a strong critic of the Salt 2 agreement and led the camptign against its Senate ratification, because he believed it gave a clear military advantage to the Soviet Union.

He maintained that the United States had fallen badly behind the Soviet Union in the arms race as a result of Salt 2, opening up what President Reagan has described as a "window of vulnerability".

Mr Nitze's first talks will be to explain to the Russians President Reagan's offer to forgo the deployment of 572 Pershing 2 and *cruise missiles* in Western Europe if the Soviet Union will dismantle its SS20s and similar medium-range missiles.

President Brezhnev has rejected this challenge and has instead offered to reduce unilaterally "a certain portion" of the Soviet Union's medium-range missile force. This is an offer which Mr Nitze is likely to treat with extreme caution.


Paul Nitze: Super-hawk who does homework.

☐ President Reagan said yesterday that he is convinced that if Geneva has a chance of success, it is because the United States has decided to rearm.

"I think one of the things going for us in these negotiations is that this is the first time that we have sat at the able opposite them in which they have got some interest in coming together in the negotiations because we are not busily disarming ourselves," he said in a television intervew.

"Now they know that we have the determination to go ahead ... on this defence programme."

The Soviet Union has picked one of its cleverest young diplomats for Geneva (Our Foreign Staff writes). Outwardly Mr Yuli Aleksandrovich Kvitsinsky, who is 45, fits many people's idea of the typical Soviet diplomat.

He is pale, pudgy and somewhat unhealthy-looking. When the situation demands it he can be as dull, cold, plodding and stubbornly repetitive as the *apparatchik* of the old textbooks. But he can also open out when necessary, and in private he can be witty and amusing, with a good fund of jokes.

Westerners who have come into contact with him regard him as a skilled professional diplomat, exceptionally clever and well aware of the fact. He has a quick mind and a well-sharpened ability to spot weakness in an opponent's argument.

He does not suffer from the "tunnel vision" of earlier generations of Soviet diplomats. He has a good understanding of the Western world, and particularly of West Germany, where he served from 1978 as number two in the Soviet embassy.

He is also no stranger to East-West negotiations. He was on the Soviet delegation which negotiated the Quadripartite Agreement on Berlin, signed in 1971. He also served briefly in 1973 at the Vienna talks on troop reductions in Europe, and was an adviser to the Soviet delegation at the United Nations General Assembly in 1976.

Born on September 28, 1936, into a family which moved from Poland to Russia in the last century, he claims to speak Polish, and knows some English. He studied German and Norwegian (which he also speaks well) at Moscow University.
and literature. He smokes and


Yuli Kvitsinsky: Will spot any weakness.

drinks but is self-disciplined by Russian standards.

As a negotiator he will be under close instruction from Moscow but he is thought sufficiently well trusted to be allowed some room for flexibility. His personality will also be important in his reporting back to Moscow, which doubtless chose him as a person able to deal with the exceptionally complex issues at stake in the talks.

Among the open questions is whether he will exploit his fluent German to put across his case to the West German public through press or television interviews, though this would mean a break with normal Soviet diplomatic practice.

Spain wins approval for joining Nato

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Nov 26

The Spanish Government obtained final approval today with a 106 to 60 vote in the Senate for its main foreign policy initiative—joining Nato.

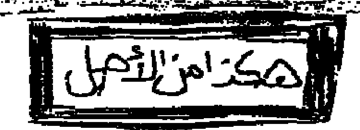
This clears the way for Madrid to send a signal to Brussels, perhaps from tomorrow's Cabinet meeting, in time for the Nato ministerial council meeting which begins on December 10.

The lower house of the Spanish Parliament gave its approval on October 29. On both occasions the Socialists voted against, having promised to hold a referendum on the issue should the opposition party win power at the next general election. A referendum was refused by the *Calvo* Sotelo Government.

The Senate confirmed the stipulation that there will be no Nato nuclear weapons on Spanish soil but the approved text leaves to parliament an eventual revision of this attiture. Madrid had hoped to win approval to join Nato last month.

It now seems likely that the governments of Nato member countries will merely welcome the Spanish initiative, with the formal signing in the new year

The government badly needed today's success because it suffered its first serious defeat in Parliament last night as the lower house debates the budget. Five members of the breakaway Social Democratic wing of the ruling party completely surprised the Government by siding with the opposition in a snap vote.



MIDDLE EAST IN THE BALANCE

Counting the cost of Saudi failure

From Godfrey Morrison, Fez, Nov 26

Delegations to the aborted Arab summit were packing their bags here today. The main debate among delegates was to decide who had won and who had lost.

This year's Arab summit, originally expected to last three days. collapsed after only five and a half hours, broken by the Arab world's deep disagreement about the Saudi formula for peace in the Middle East.

Arab hard-liners, such as Libya, Iraq and Syria, were in no doubt that the decision of King Hassan of Morocco to suspend the summit indefinitely represented a victory for the.

They biterly opposed Crown Prince Fahd's eight-point peace plan which by recognizing the right of all states in the region to live in peace, was widely interpreted as offering implicit recognition to Israel.

Mr Abdul Ati al-Obeid, the Libyan Foreign Minister, said today: "We consider that the plan has been completely wiped out and we hope that it will not be discussed again". But he added: "I wish the summit had rejected the plan so we can get rid of its implications once and for all".

Conference sources said the decision to break off the summit was taken by King Hassan, the conference chairman, in consultation with Prince Fahd, both of them realizing that wholehearted endorsement of the plan was impossible.

Only agreement at the highest level can ensure binding commitment in Arab diplomacy and this summit was seriously weakened by the fact that seven of the 20 states represented failed to send their head of state or chief executive.

The final blow to any realistic hope of success came only hours before the conference opened with the announcement that President Assad of Syria would not attend, despite previous indications that he would attend.

Conference sources said that at one point during a heated exchange with Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, Syria's Foreign Minister and chief delegate, King Hassan emphasized the subordinate status of a foreign minister by holding up a pen before him and declaring "with this pen I can make peace or war".

Despite the diplomatic debacle, the long, and at times byzantine search for Arab consensus continues. of particular interest today was a reliable report that Mr Yassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine iberation Organization, and Cron Prince Fahd were holding private talks.

Israel gloats quietly over collapse of Arab summit in Fez

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Nov 26

The collapse of the twelfth Arab summit in Fez has given considerable satisfaction to an Israeli Government which had been growing increasingly concerned about the influence of Saudi Arabia over the Reagan Administration and other Western governments.

A senior Israeli official claimed today that the breakdown demonstrated the lack of Saudi influence in the Arab world, the low opinion which many Arab governments held of the Saudi leadership, and the fact that oil money did not necessarily equal influence among the Arab nations.

The official, who was briefing correspondents on Israel's analysis of the manoeuvrings at Fez, said: "It demonstrated clearly just what you can and cannot get out of Saudi Arabia. The Saudis have put a lot of energy in trying to win acceptance for their ideas. For them, it is a real setback".

Although it has not been said publicly, there is a widespread hope in Israel that the collapse of the summit will provide a lesson to those Western nations, particularly America and Britain, which have recently invested arms and political faith in backing the Saudi regime.

Israel believes that the failure of the Saudis to bring round either Syria or Iraq has vindicated its argument that the Saudi Government is intrinsically weak. "The result", said the official, "is a real measure of the status and political clout of Saudi Arabia".

While regarding the collapse of the summit as a total victory for the rejectionist states, particularly Syria, Israel also sees the result of the failed deliberations as strengthening the position of the new Egyptian Government of President Mubarak in the Arab world.

Explaining this, the Israeli official said: "Because the Arab edifice is weakened, it automatically makes Egypt stronger. The result of the summit has been to demonstrate to Egypt that the Arab fold which opposed it [because of Camp David] is not as fearsome as it looked to be."

Although officials have been unable to disguise their satisfaction at what is seen here as the humiliation of the Saudis, Israeli ministers had by early tonight restrained themselves from any public gloating over the result.

At today's briefing, the senior officials (who like many other Israelis had watched the proceedings at Fez on Jordanian television) claimed that one regrettable consequence was the difficulty of seeing how, in the present circumstances, the Arab world was in a position to come to terms with Israel.

☐ Cairo: Mr Boutros Ghal, the Egyptian deputy Foreign Minister, said today the breakdown of the Arab summit in Fez showed that Arab countries were unable to offer peaceful solutions in the Middle East without Egypt (Reuter reports).

Cairo was suspended from the Arab League because of its peace treaty with Israel and was not invited to the Fez meeting.

"The road which Egypt launched remains the only way to achieve peace", Mr Ghali said. He said Cairo was not attempting to impose its ideas on any side in the conflict and would continue its peace process until a just and comprehensive solution was found.

He pointed out that the proposals which had been rejected had not even offered diplomatic relations or negotiations with Israel. In one way, he added, this was a vindication of the Israeli approach in the Camp David accords of conducting direct negotiations with a single Arab country.



"I told you not to lean too hard against it!"

Hundreds flee blasts at Haifa ammunition dump

Haifa, Nov 26.—A series of bombs exploded today at an ammunition depot near Haifa and in Jerusalem.

The explosions at the Israeli military camp were started by a fire that broke out as a result of worker negligence, police said. Hundreds of local residents rushed into air raid shelters.

Firemen quickly brought the blaze under control but cases of ammunition continued to explode for almost three hours with many artillery shells flying outside the depot.

The two bombs that exploded in Jerusalem injured one man and caused extensive damage to a shop, police said. An earlier explosion in a different part of the city caused slight damage.

Palestinian guerrillas in Damascus claimed responsibility for the Jerusalem explosions which they said had caused casualties and set fire to shops. They said a third bomb had been spotted and defused shortly before it was due to go off.

Israeli troops detained about 70 Arabs after the blasts but the guerrillas escaped, according to the Palestinian spokesman.—AFP, Reuter.

PRO-PLO PAPER SUSPENDED

Al Fajr, a pro-Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Arabic daily newspaper that is published in Jerusalem, was suspended today for the second time this month.

Announcing the one-month suspension order, an Israeli Ministry of Interior spokesman said that since the paper had resumed publication it had published material liable to endanger public welfare, alluding to its coverage of the murder of Yusuf el Khatib, a moderate Palestinian denounced by the PLO as a Qisling.

Mr Hannu Seniora, the editor, in a statement broadcast by Israeli radio, said the disputed article had not incited terror since it had been published in the English-language section of the newspaper. He said he would appeal.

The paper was ordered to close for 10 days on November 9 for breaches of censorship procedures.

Army chief delivers ultimatum on Sinai

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem, Nov 26

Lieutenant-General Rafael Eitan, the Israeli Chief of Staff, said today that Israel would not withdraw from the remaining one third of occupied Sinai next April if the inter national peacekeeping force were not established by then.

The general, who said that he was speaking for Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, said that such a refusal would be in accordance with the Camp David agreement, Israeli radio reported.

Earlier, Israeli ministers insisted that they would veto the participation of Britain, France, Italy and the Netherlands in the Sinai force despite heavy American pressure for a last-minute change of heart.

Mr Begin, in his most forthright public comment on the matter told the Hebrew afternoon paper *Ma'Ariv* that he would instruct the Cabinet to block the participation of the four EEC nations when it meets to take a final decision on Sunday. He added that he was prepared to take full responsibility for the decision.

At the same time, Mr Begin met Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, who has accepted an eleventh hour invitation to fly to Washington for talks with Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, which will centre on the threatened Israeli veto. Mr Shamir is expected back in Jerusalem for Sunday's decision.

After his preparatory meeting with Mr Begin and Mr Ariel Sharon, the hardline Defence Minister, Mr Shamir told reporters that there was no room for flexibility in Israel's opposition to European participation in the Force under the terms laid down this

Mr Shamir claimed that while there were differences on the issue with the United States, there had been no American pressure on Israel. Diplomatic observers expect the position to change when Mr Shamir reaches Washington, with Mr Haig attempting to exert maximum leverage to EEC contingent.

In his interview today, Mr Begin explained that he will produce documents at Sunday's meeting to back his argument that the additions made by the European governments to their basic four-point offer to join the Force contradict the Camp David agreement. He is expected to win unanimous backing from his ministers.

The exact nature of the American pressure which will be exerted on Mr Shamir is still unclear. But today Israel radio reported that America had already said refusal to allow European participation would both endanger the establishment of the Force and damage the peace process.

The Haig-Shamir meeting comes only days before Israel is hoping to sign a wide-ranging strategic cooperation pact with the United States, and there have been suggestions that the Reagan Administration may try to link this with the negotiations.

But in diplomatic circles, the feeling remains tonight that unless the four European governments offer to change their published conditions for participation, the Israeli veto permitted under the terms of Camp David will be applied.

That conviction was reinforced when Mr Shimon Peres, the Opposition leader, announced today that the Labour Alignment would support the Government in its opposition to European involvement without a change in the conditions.

Speaking after a meeting with the Prime Minister, Mr Peres said: "We think it was rather unwise and completely unnecessary for some European countries to add to Camp David some items which in a way twist the content of Camp David, and in many ways negate it."

With the exception of America, Colombia, Uruguay and Fiji all the other offers of national contingents for the 2,500-strong force are understood in some way or other to hinge on European participation.

Warning on over-use of antibiotics

From Our Correspondent Geneva, Nov 26

The World Health Organization (WHO), in a warning about the growing danger of a world-wide recrudescence of infectious diseases such as acute pneumonia, meningitis and cholera, is calling for an end to the excessive use of antibiotics, which has led to the development of resistant bacteria.

Its campaign began with a meeting here this week of Bacteriologists working on aspects of antimicrobial resistance. Dr Stuart Levy, Professor of Molecular Biology and Microbiology at Tufts University Medical School, Boston, said that laboratory tests showed a threefold increase in intestinal resistant bacteria over the past five years.

WHO, a United Nations agency, is drawing up recommendations for curtailing application of antibiotics, including doctors resisting "social persuasion" in presmcribing. For pharmaceutical companies, Dr Levy said, this means "certain drugs will not be used to the same extent".

Dr K B Sharma, of Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi, said they had found resistant bacteria in 80 per cent of hospital patients and 60 per cent of staff.

Italian party congress lacks appeal

From Our Own Correspondent Rome, Nov 26

The slow start to the Christian Democratic national assembly, called to trace the lines of renewal for Italy's leading party, is causing concern.

The assembly opened yesterday and is intended to continue until Sunday, but most of yesterday was spent listening to a 150-page introductory report read by Signor Luigi Gui, a former minister whose virtues are by no means charismatic.

Today, the debate was limited to the morning followed by a withdrawal into commissions. One of the main points reported on both these opening days is the number of empty seats. There were supposed to have been 600 delegates and 300 guests, but according to one estimate, average attendance was around 400 people.

The Christian Democrats need to convince their own followers that the future will not necessarily see the end of their three decades of rule. But the outlook is disturbing for them. They no longer have the presidency nor the prime minstership.

They have lost the big cities and have performed unsatisfactorily in recent elections. The yhave a severe leadership problem

Reagan's fight with vanity and modesty

From Nicholas Ashford Washington, Nov 26

Home-loving, humble, a good husband and a man with a "soft touch" are some of the impressions of President Reagan conveyed to the homes of millions of Americans today during a special Thanksgiving Day interview he gave to Barbara Walters at his ranch in California.

The interview was part of a profile of the President broadcast on ABC television which also included interviews with his children and his associates.

The interview included discussion of the two men in the Reagan Administration who have been at the centre of controversy—Mr David Stockman, the Budget Director, and Mr Richard Allen, the National Security Adviser. It also covered the budget crisis, his thoughts on the greatest threat facing America and his assessment of his own performance.

The President appeared relaxed as he chatted about how he never managed to excel at school except in sport; the problems of growing up poor during the Depression with a father who was an alcoholic; and how, as a youngster, he had an annoying habit of playing with other people's ear lobes.

Mr Reagan said he had gained the reputation as a politician who only worked regular day-time hours because when he was Governor of California he always made a point of returning home at five in the evening to be with his family. "But I went home with a briefcase full of work", he said.

The President was asked how he would describe himself: "Oh, ther's a terrible fight going on inside me between vanity and modesty". He felt he was a "soft touch", although he quickly added, no doubt reflecting on his use of the veto during the budget battle with Congress earlier this week, "sometimes I am stubborn, but I hope not unnecessarily so".

Asked to rate his own performance tduring his firs ten months in office on a scale from "A" for excellence to "F" for failure, the President noted that he had never done better than "C" when he was at college. But he felt his moves to cut spending and taxes rated better than "C".

The President was firm in his defence of Mr Stockman: "David Stockman was not the sinner, he was sinned against", he said. It was perfectly natural that Mr Stockman should get together with an old friend to discuss on a not-for-attribution basis the problems he faced.

The President was more guarded in his remarks about Mr Allen who is under investigation because he received $1,000 (about £500) from a Japanese magazine for helping to arrange an interview with Mrs Nancy Reagan. He noted that the Japanese, who had arranged the payment, had corroborated everything that Mr Allen had said

He admitted that he would have pardoned Mr Richard Nixon if he had been in President Ford's shoes. It was, he said, the step which had to be taken to end the bitterness

What was the toughest decision of his Presidency? It could have been last Monday's veto, knowing that he was involved in a "game of chicken" with Congress which could have resulted in Government grinding to a halt.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Oil threat to beaches in Sweden

Stockholm.—An oil tanker spilt most of its cargo on the Soviet Baltic coast after running aground and breaking in half poses a pollution threat to Swedish beaches, a coastguard official said.

With light westerly winds already blowing the heavy fuel oil on to Soviet beaches, Swedish beaches 220 miles due east could be polluted if the wind changed direction, he said.

But the coastguard did not expect pollution from the Gibraltar-registered Globe Asimi, around in the Lithuanian port of Klaipeda, to be on the scale of last January's oil spill when more than 40,000 sea birds died near Göteborg.

Iran sues US over arms

Tehran.—Iran has filed a $12m (£6m) claim against the United States for undelivered arms bought by the late Shah, according to Mr Hassan Nurbakhsh. Governor of the Iranian Central Bank.

The claim, filed with an international medation panel in The Hague, was prepared by the Defence Minister "on the basis of numerous documents showing clearly the sale of American arms to the old regime", Mr Nurbakhsh told the Iranian news agency.

China's flag flies in Hongkong

Hongkong.—For the first time the national emblem of Communist China has been officially displayed in Hongkong. It was established above the entrance to the Chinese Foreign Affairs Ministry's visa office and the Chinese national flag was also unfurled.

The office is on the ground floor of the New China news agency, which is the unofficial headquarters of the Chinese Government in Hongkong. The visa office has a staff of 20 and will speed up the clearance of visas for Chinese and foreigners seeking to visit China.

Two sentenced to death

Kigali.—The Rwandan security court trial of 48 people accused of plotting against President Juvenal Habyarimana has ended with two death sentences, 23 jail sentences of from two to 23 years, and 24 acquittals.

The death sentences were passed in the north-west town of Ruhengern on Major Theoneste Lizinde, a former head of security, and Alphonse Kagenza.

Football hooligans riot in Vienna

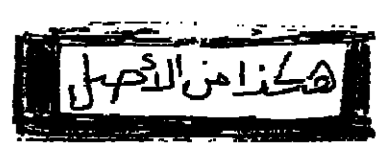
Vienna.—Football hooligans, venting their anger over the local Rapid team's 0—1 defeat by Real of Madrid, attacked Spanish fans, stoned vehicles and damaged other property.

Some 350 youths were reportedly involved

Laser treatment

Tokyo. — Several cancer patients have been successfully treated with laser beams, two teams of Japanese doctors reported at the fourth international convention on laser surgery.




هكذا من الأصل

Ex-soldier thought he worked for secret service

CIA named in shooting case

From a Special Correspondent, Fort Collins, Colorado, Nov 26

A former American soldier, who is accused of attempting to murder an opponent of Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, has told a court hearing here that he *thought he was working* forthe Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) when he called on his victim to deliver a message just over a year ago.

Mr Eugene Tafoya, a burly, bearded former Green Beret, aged 48, claimed that he shot Mr Faisal Zagallai, a 35-year-old Libyan student at the university here, in self defence.

He said that he had been working as a spy and courier between Libya and various European capitals, including Lodnon, for Mr Edwin Wilson, a former CIA agent who is wanted in the United States on charges of supplying the Libyan government with explosives and munitions.

According to Mr *Tafoya's* testimony, he received a message in London in September, 1980, telling him to get in touch with Mr Zagallai to tell the Libyan exile to end propaganda efforts which were upseting relations between Israel and Egypt.

When he called on Mr *Zagallai at his apartment* in Fort Collins, the latter lost his temper and tried to shoot him with a pistol hidden under a cushion. There was a struggle and the gun which Mr Tafoya was carrying went off, the defendant said.

Although the CIA has denied any connexion with Mr Tafoya, his evidence will inevitably renew speculation that the mysterious Mr Wilson, in exile in Libya, has maintained close ties with his former CIA colleagues in Washington.

Mr Kevin Mulcahy, a former associate of Mr Wilson, has said that he believes the CIA turned a blind eye to Mr Wilson's activities, in return for information about Colonel Gaddafi's regime.

The possible involvement of the CIA in the Tafoya case also came to light during the early stages of the Fort Collins trial when Mr Robert Miller, the United States district judge, ruled that *much of the information* gathered during the prosecution's inquiries into the case should not be made public.

Among the sealed documents is evidence that Mr Tafoya visited Mr Wilson's homes in Tripoli, Malta and Sussex.

Mr Wilson's English country home is Broxmead farm near Haywards Heath and an organization which he runs to recruit British and American airmen for work in Libya operates from an office in Knox Street, Marylebone, London.

☐ **Houston:** A local oil broker accused of being involved in a gun-running conspiracy may have ties *with Mr Wilson and Frank* Terpil, a convicted gun-runner, a federal agent said in court today (AP reports).

DANES GIVE SPY TO GERMANY

Mr Jörg Meyer, an East German, serving a six-year jail sentence here on spying charges was pardoned and released and turned over to the West German authorities (our Copenhagen Correspondent writes).

Mr Ole Espersen, the Danish Minister of Justice, said Mr Meyer would be exchanged by Bonn, along with other East Germans in a spy-swapping deal.

Deng stays his hand

Peking, Nov 26.— China tonight formally announced that it was putting off a scheduled revision of its constitution. This may reflect disagreement about who should become head of state.

Peking radio and television said a redrafting committee would ask the national people's congress, (parliament), next week for more time to conclude its work.

The post of state chairman, or head of state, was abolished under Mao Tse-tung who had made its last incumbent, the late Liu Shaoqi, the main target of his cultural revolution from 1966-76.

Diplomatic and Chinese souyrces say the new draft constitution could revive the post, for which the best qualified candidate would be Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Communist Party Vice-Chairman. Reuter.

Quebec tries to block reform

From John Best
Ottawa, Nov 26

A measure to reform and bring home the Canadian constitution moved towards final passage in the House of Commons today, as a new dispute was brewing over a move by Quebec to block the project.

Last night, Mr René Levesque, The Quebec Premier, announced that his Cabinet had passed an Order in *Council declaring the province's* intention to veto the reform resolution before Parliament.

The Federal Government's first response was to laugh the move off. Mr Jean Chrétien, The Federal Minister of Justice, said: "He (Mr Levesque) can pass a decree if he wants that there will be no snow over Quebec this winter. It will have the same effect."

Addressing the Quebec National Assembly in Quebec City, Mr Lévesque cited what he considered a precedent. In 1971, a plan to patriate the constitution was aborted when Quebec decided to withdraw its support.

But Mr Chretien said that in 1971 the Federal Government had decided not to proceed without Quebec's support. "It's not the same situation now. Only England has a veto right at this time."

Mr Lévesque's announcement appears to dash hopes of a compromise on the three points still dividing him from the Federal Government



Tender moment alone: Mr Lech Walesa, leader of Poland's Solidarity movement, and his wife, Stanislawa, who are expecting their seventh child

Party to indicate how far it will yield to Solidarity

By Roger Boyes

The Central Committee of the Polish Communist Party holds an important plenary session today, with both the Government and Solidarity, the independent trade union organization, deadlocked in talks on how to share power over the country's economy.

The committee meeting is not expected to lead to a break through in the talks, but it will give the government *negotiators some idea* of how far concessions can be made to Solidarity.

Mr Stefan Olszowski, generally viewed as a hardliner within the Politburo, made it clear yesterday that he would oppose any instituionalized right of veto on economic policy. Mr Lech Walesa, the solidarity leader, has proposed the right of veto as a pre-condition for joining a coalition arrangement with the Government.

Mr Walessa, like the government negotiators, has little room for manoeuvre. Earlier this week, 15 members of the Gdansk regional executive resigned their positions, claiming that Mr Walessa was making too *many concessions to* the Government and was not keeping the executive adequately informed.

The Solidarity movement favours a broad-based "social council" to oversee the economy. It initially pressed for a joint ability with the Government to initiate leglislation and thus to ensure changes, for example, in worker participation in industry, *would be guaranteed.*

The union has now abandoned this demand and says it is prepared to settle for a consultative role, complete with a veto right. This, and other issues, such as access to the media, should be worked out before there can be any decision on joining the Government's proposed *Front of National* Understanding.

The government, however wants to make the joining of a Front of National Understanding the first step before concrete proposals on economic reform are implemented. Solidarity is afraid that the Front will prove to be a hollow, and that the Government is trying to neuter the independent union in advance of serious negotiations on the hiolding of local elections.

It is difficult to see how this mutural suspicion can be overcome. Solidarity has a certain amount of ground that it can give, but if it yielded ther right of veto on government initiaives, there *would be considerable* discontent from and rank and file.

For the ordinary Solidarity member, the veto right would mean that the union had gained another instrument for blocking government policy, and would not therefore have to resort ot strikes with the same frequency.

Pressure on voters in Brazil

From Patrick Knight
Brasilia, Nov 26

The Brazilian Government has cut short negotiations with the opposition parties over electoral reform and announced that voters must vote for candidates of the same party for all their choices. in next year's elections.

Should voters select candidates from different parties *for local government councillors* and prefects, central government deputies and senators, and for the post of state governor, their vote would be annulled.

This measure, called "A Pearl Harbour attack" by Senhor Ulysses Guimaraes, the leader of the main opposition party, the PMDB, will greatly favour the powerful and well organized government party, the Social Democratic Party (PDS) and greatly hinder the smaller opposition parties.

Parties will have to field candidates for all posts in each town, to be eligible, an almost impossible task for parties such as the Workers Party, the PT or the Brazilian Labour Party, (PTB).

Race riot quelled by army

Moscow, Nov 26. — The Soviet Army was called in to quell violent inter-communal riots late month in northern Caucasia, an official Soviet source said today.

Pitched battles were fought by the Ossets and Chechens, two ethnic groups in Ordzhonikidze, a town of 300,000 people, between the Black and the Caspian seas. the incidents were not reported by the press here.

The fighting started after the murder of a Chechen taxi driver, who was decapitated. His friends, joined by a large crowd calling for revenge, carried his body to the local communist party headquarters.

The party headquarters were ransacked, scores of people were wounded, and the Army was called in, *an* unofficial source said.

Violent clashes then took place between soldiers and civilians for several hours, and tanks took yp positions in various parts of the town. There was no shooting and no one was killed, the source said, adding that several buildings in the centre of *town* were badly damaged.

French to resume work on atomic power plants

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Nov 26

The Mitterrand Government has become a wholehearted convert to nuclear power, both civil and military, and this despite its initial misgivings.

At the same time as the Elysée Palace this week confirmed the explosion of a nuclear device in the Pacific on November 11, the Cabinet decided to go ahead with the construction of three of the five nuclear power plants on which it had ordered work to be halted last July, pending consultation with local authorities.

The device was exploded at the Pacific experimental centre on Mururoa Atoll in French Polynesia. The ecologist organization Greenpeace, disclosing this on Tuesday, suggested that as its power only two kilotons "it was probably a neutron bomb". This was officially denied by the President's office.

The explosion was part of a current programme of tests. Details were not given but the tests are designed to improve the miniaturization and "hardening" of a whole range of existing French nuclear weapons, including the Hades tactical missile and the M4 strategic missile, with which French nuclear submarines will be equipped from 1985.

Alongside this programme, the atomic energy authority is involved in research and development of the neutron bomb, but no final decision has yet been taken by the government to go ahead with its manufacture.

The statement issued by Greenpeace in Paris was based on information from the National Radiation Laboratory in Wellington, but this did not draw any conclusions about the nature of the device exploded. It was the fifth nuclear test since the socialists came to power, and the eleventh since the beginning of the year, Greenpeace claimed. The coral base of the Atoll was, it claimed, deeply cracked by the tests.

Three nuclear power stations given the go-ahead this week are Cattenom 3, in Lorraine; Chooz B1, in the Ardennes; and Golfech 1, in the Pyrenees region.

In the case of the two others "frozen" in July — Pellerin, near Nantes, and Civaux, in the Vienne, near Poitiers — there is still strong local controversy.

The only people who are not satisfied are the ecologists, who consider that the Socialists have betrayed their electoral promises; and industrialists, who deplore the effect on employment of the slowing down, however limited, of the nuclear power



Wave of arrests as Pakistan hunts 'saboteurs'

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad, Nov 26

A country wide hunt for saboteurs and political fugitive is under way in Pakistan. Many arrests have been made in the last few weeks, including those of university lecturers and leading members of the banned People's Party of the late Lulfikar Ale Bhutto, the former Prime Minister.

A young man described as a leader of the Al Zulfikar organization, which the Government has described as he military arm of the People's Party, was shot dead by police at his Karachi flat, the officer leading the raid ws also killed.

Those arrested so far include three lecturers at the Islamabad Quaid-e-Azam University, while several others were reported as being interrogated. Newspapers said today that police in several cities and towns were on the trail of political leaders and workers who belonged to the People's Party or were considered left-wingers. Mr Syed Quaim Ali Shah, who was a Sind minister in Mr Bhutto partie's government, was being sought by police, while the wife of Mr Shaukat Mahmud of Punjab, was reported detained in Lahore.

Eleven people were arrested in Karachi, according to a press report, while the police were said to have raided several houses.

Three university lecturers arrested early this month in Islamabad are reported to be accused of being involved in an anti-government conspiracy to circulate clandestine news sheets and carrying out other unspecified activities against the regime.

A military court is expected to try them, but so far no authoritative statement has been made on these and several other arrests.

A press photograph that purported to show the literature seized from the lecturers' homes depicted bundles of books and papers in which could be seen copies of *Peking Review* and Solzhenitsyn's *Cancer Ward*. It has also been reported that the offices of the lecturers had been ransacked and more material required by the police removed by unidentified persons.

The provincial governments have from time to time announced bans on certain publications said to contain anti-State matter.

The man killed in the Karachi raid a week ago was Asad Lala, a student from Khairpur, in Sind, who was alleged to have lead a gang that organized an abortive bomb attack on the Pope when he visited Karachi and the murder two months ago in Lahore of a former member of President Zia's Cabinet.

According to press reports, Russians and Afghans have been training youths in Kabul in urban warfare and many of these have arrived in Pakistan. The reports alleged that some armed groups were operating from the universities. In Islamabad there have been night raids on the university by police and other security agencies to seize arms.

Press reports generally suggest that the anti-government elements are left-wingers. Federal and provincial ministers have been making hard-hitting attacks on left-wingers in educational institutions and in the press.



Unwilling passenger: A Haitian refugee prepares to jump form the aircraft waiting to take him and 124 others from a detention camp in Miami to one in Puerto Rico. An immigration officer restrains another

Bangladesh waits for IMF to open purse

By Leslie Plommer

In the cool dim offices of Bangladesh's Ministers of Finance, Planning and Development, where men sit at large desks drawing up ledgers of earnings and aspirations that never balance, the current visit of an International Monetary Fund team is being watched with an intensity that befits the most important event at present in the capital.

Bangladesh, one of the world's poorest nations, is waiting for the gods of international finance and rain to decide whether the country's condition over this sunny winter will be desperate, or very desperate.

The IMF team is considering whether to resume payments to Bangladesh of a three-year $912m (£480m) loan it suspended last July because the country had exceeded agreed ceilings on Government spending, and failed to reduce various commodity subsidies, mainly on food.

At the same time, cracks in the delta's farming earth in the north have grown wide because the dry season set in too early. There has been little rain for the past two months and an independent economist estimated in Dacca recently that before the lone rainfull that did come at the start of November, a 30 per cent crop loss was expected.

Now the loss will still be at least 10 per cent, experts predict, and talk has ceased even in the Government of a bumper harvest of more than 15 million tonnes of foodgrains. With no rain, and declining food aid and foreign exchange reserves, the country faces more of the lean times it knows so well. There is a serious danger of famine in some northern areas.

Export earnings dropped by 15 per cent last year, reflecting the plunge in world jute prices. Simultaneously, the price of imports increased by 19 per cent, with oil purchases consuming more than 80 per cent of Bangladesh's export earnings. This gap has left the country's foreign reserves at a record low of £71m.

There is much bitterness in Dacca at present over the policies of the international agencies and donor nations which have propped up Bangladesh since its bloody inception in 1971. Anger is greatest with the Reagan Administration which has been pressing the IMF, the World Bank and others to tighten their lending practices.

"Agencies like the IMF urge us to enter a certain room, but withold the key", Dr Fashiuddin Mahtab, the respected and non-partisan Planning Minister, said in Dacca. He was referring to the paradox that at least half of Bangladesh's budget deficit, to which the IMF objects, was incurred carrying out policies urged by the IMF, such as providing higher Government support prices to farmers.

Dr Mahtab criticized the Reagan Government's attempts to impose its domestic economic thinking — specifically on the supremacy of free enterprise and reduced government spending — on the IMF and World Bank. "Washington is, in effect, imposing on Bangladesh policies it has not been able to carry out even at home".

Stepping into the breach in the strategic region is Japan, which has not only replaced the United States as Bangladesh's biggest donor but is also the only foreign country to achieve an economic hold in Burma next door.

Japan gets the small petroleum surplus now produced by Burma and is involved in attempts to exploit the huge natural gas reserves which Bangladesh has barely begun to tap. With foreign grants and credits financing 54 per cent of Bandladesh's budget, outside forces have a great hold over Dacca.

"Our needs are changing but donoe policies are not", one minister complained. Commodity aid, needed to provide industry's raw materials, is drying up.

"The only aid that is increasing is project aid because it is tied to sales of the donor's machinery an equipment to us", the Minister said.

TIDAL WAVE KILLS 47

Manila, Nov 26—The death toll wrought by the typhoon Irma rose to 89 today with reports of a tidal wave that devastated a southern Luzon village on Tuesday, killing at least 47 people.

The Philippine Red Cross said the tidal wave death toll could easily exceed 100 as 70 people were still missing in a village near Garchitorena.

China defends its exports of uranium

Peking, Nov 26. — The *People's Daily* said today that reports that China was selling enriched uranium to South Africa were spread by countries worried that Peking was breaking their monopoly of nuclear materials.

Following up a denial yesterday that China was making such shipments, the newspaper said the aim of the reports was to put pressure on China so that the nuclear monopoly enjoyed by others could be restored.

It did not name the countries concerned, nor did it mention the *Washington Post*, which in a front-page article on Thursday last week quoted United States officials as saying that they were convinced that China was the source of recent enriched uranium shipments to South Africa.

Citing a statement by the Chinese United Nations mission in New York, the *New China* news agency said that it was "entirely normal for China to export a limited quantity of nuclear materials in the interest of international cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Sikhs' home thoughts from abroad

From Kuldip Nayar Delhi, Nov 26

Mr Zail Singh, India's Home Minister, told Parliament today that the agitation for a Sikh homeland has been launched by a small section of disgruntled Sikhs living abroad.

The demand has caught the imagination of many Sikhs in Punjab and there have been incidents of violence against Hindus in the state. A few months ago, a senior Hindu editor was killed by a band of Sikhs.

However, Mr Singh said that there was nothing specific to indicate that the incidents of violence were connected with the agitation for the homeland. He admitted that an Indian aircraft was hijacked last month to Pakistan and the hijackers had said that they had done so to highlight the demand.

Mr Singh said it was a move to divide India. The Government would not tolerate further division of the country and it was determined to put down firmly all anti-national moves, he said.

Mr S C Jha, an opposition MP, said the central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had a hand in the movement and he asked for this question to be raised at the next Commonwealth meeting since the movement, he alleged, was being directed from Britain and Canada.The government said in reply that they had no specific information about any particular agency helping the movement.

Honduras set for elections

Iegucigalpa, Nov 26 — Honduras is preparing to return to democracy after 18 years of military rule. Elections next Sunday, called by a constituent assembly elected 18 months ago, will choose a civilian president, a Congress of 82 deputies and 283 mayors.

This country of 3.5 million people — the poorest in central America with a per capita annual income estimated in 1978 at $480 (about £240) — shares frontiers with Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala.

The nation's leaders last month called an emergency meeting of top army officers to warn them to "respect the results of the ballot box as long as voting has been free, honest and lawful".

Two main parties will fight in the election. The Liberal party's candidate is Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova, aged 54, who is the speaker of the constituent assembly. He sees only one solution for Honduras: A return to complete constitutional rule and the introduction of social and economic reforms

The other party is the National Party (conservative), which has supported the military regime of General Policarpo Paz Garcia. Its candidate is Senor Ricardo Zuniga Agustinos, aged 63, a lawyer who sees the nation facing "life or death" problems. He says the answer lies not so much in reform as in facing up to "the Communist threat that hangs over all of Central America" — AFP.

A judicial Bastille stormed

French MPs repeal anti-smashers law

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Nov 26

One of the judicial Bastilles of the "old regime", as the left always refers to it, the law of 1970 directed against people damaging property, was stormed last night without much more resistance than the symbol of despotism in 1789.

The National Assembly abolished it by 334 votes to 134, the Gaullists and Giscardians opposing. But even the Opposition did not put up a very determined resistance and about 16 of their number abstained.

The suppression of the "anti-smashers" law was part of the proclaimed objective of the Socialists, if they came to power, of removing from the penal code what they termed "villainous" and exceptional provisions, and those courts of exception, like the Court for State Security, which in their view are a threat to civil liberties. Also high on the list of the Socialists' priorities for the same reason is the repeal of the "security and freedom" law, voted under the Barre Government, to toughen and accelerate criminal procedure. This will be part of a complete overhaul of the Penal Code next year, but already the provisions of the "security and freedom" law have become a dead letter.

The adoption by Parliament of the "anti-smashers" law 11 years ago was prompted by the concern aroused in the Government and in public opinion by the students' unrest of May and June, 1968. This continued intermittently through the two or three years that followed, with the agitation of extreme left-wing elements in Paris and in leading provincial towns, and extensive damage to property, especially shop windows and parked cars.

M. Jacques Chaban-Delmas who was Prime Minister at the time, considered that "The smashers should be the payers." But the law was pregnant with potential abuses. It extended the notion of penal responsibility for damage or injury to the organizers of all demonstrations.

The law was applied regularly to demonstrations by student extremists and other protest groups which degenerated into assaults on property. Its abuses came under the sharpest criticism after the pitched battles with the police and the smashing of shops in the Opéra District in Paris by groups of anarchist agitators after a miners' and steelworkers' protest march on Paris organized by the Communist-led CGT,

Several students were arrested and summarily convicted of offences allegedly committed by plainclothes police provocateurs.



PARLIAMENT November 26 1981

All-party search for fair complaints system

COMMONS

MPs from all parties should devise together a sensible system of dealing with complaints against the police which would meet the requirements of discipline and complaints, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said when he was asked to set up an inquiry to study methods of independent investigation into complaints against the police.

Mr Whitelaw, answering a series of Commons questions on independent investigation of complaints against the police, said he accepted that the procedure for handling complaints against the police must be altered if it was to command public confidence.

I shall bring forward proposals as soon as I can (he said). I met representatives of the Police Federation last week and I shall take into account their views.

Mr Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley, Lab) said he welcomed the fact that Mr Whitelaw was aware that there is a widespread and dangerous lack of confidence about the system which Mr Roy Jenkins invented and which was criticized at the time by Conservative and Labour backbenchers.

The only sensible remedy (he said) is an ombudsman appointed by, and responsible to, this House to look into complaints which may arise against the police.

Mr Whitelaw: We have to be careful about leaping to instant solutions because there are many problems.

Any system has to marry the responsibility of a chief constable for the discipline of his force with the complaints that may be made against individuals in that force (Labour interruptions).

He is responsible for the work of his force and for the money provided to the police authority in his area and Labour MPs who keep shouting at me are advocating more accountability for chief constables.

If you are advocating that, you cannot deprive the chief constable of the right to be responsible for discipline of the members of his force. That has got to be married with complaints.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall, North, Lab): Given the need for an independent body to look into complaints against the police, when will he be in a position to report? Is it likely to be before the Christmas recess?

Mr Whitelaw: It will not be before the Christmas recess. I am ready to discuss with MPs in all parts of the House how we should devise together—and it is something this House should do together—a sensible system which will meet the requirements of discipline and dealing with complaints.

The need to deal with the discipline aspect is important. One cannot separate discipline and complaints because frequently they came in the same area. That is why MPs ought to work together to find the right answer. If Labour MPs are so sure of the answer, I would be grateful if they would tell me exactly what they want to do.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab): When he uses the word "accountable" or "accountability", to the vast majority of the electorate that means accountable to some elected body and not just in a vacuum.

The Police Federation were asking in effect for a civilian body of the Home Secretary's choosing to defend them against the accusations made against them. The Association of Chief Police Officers profoundly disagrees because they feel they are only accountable to themselves at this moment.

Mr Whitelaw: He is unfair to the chief police officers. Yes, the Police Federation did offer to have a totally independent system, but MPs should look at some of the details of their proposals. Much that would go with the offer of an independent system would be unacceptable to MPs.

We must not just imagine that the Police Federation's ideas would be easily acceptable to the House because they would not.

Mr Reg Race (Haringey, Wood Green, Lab): Given the depth of public feeling on this, as recognized in the Scarman report, and that any new system of independent complaints investigation is likely to cost money, a balance has to be struck between the money to be spent and the confidence that would be gained.

Only radical measures can instil the degree of confidence required among the public, even given a substantial increase of expenditure.

Mr Whitelaw: Expenditure is an important point. I have managed to get money for the police, but many people throughout the country want to see money spent on schemes to prevent crime and to help them in their homes.

I understand the need for a


Peyton: Harassment


Race: Radical measures

complaints procedure, but if it was wildly expensive at the expense of other police operations, the House would not like it that way either.

Mr John Peyton (Yeovil, C): Accepting that there should be reasonable machinery for dealing with complaints against the police, some MPs and others see that opportunity not merely for making reasonable complaints but for turning any action into harassment of the most important of public services.

Mr Whitelaw: I agree. Any system we devise ought to seek to deal, on the independent element, with really serious complaints, at the same time getting rid of a whole lot of bureaucratic nonsense about small, invalid and useless complaints.

Mr Douglas Hogg (Grantham, C): Any system we introduce should at least be answerable in part to a minister who could be questioned in the House.

Mr Whitelaw: Yes, that is fair. The system we have now has not prevented me from being questioned in the House.

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Birmingham, Sparkbrook, Lab): Is he ready to come to MPs with a new scheme which will avoid the principle of policemen, against whom complaints are made, being investigated by other policemen, judged by other policemen and nobody else?

Mr Whitelaw: I would be pleased to have discussions with him, the Select Committee on difficult problems involved. Home Affairs and any other MP to see how we can resolve all the

Advice on sentencing was needed

HOME OFFICE

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State, Home Office, strongly denied that the Home Secretary had capitulated to pressure from judges and magistrates over a plan to reduce prisoners' sentences.

He said the reason Mr Whitelaw had changed his mind was because he had carried out consultations and heeded what he had been told. It was absurd to talk of capitulation.

The minister told a Conservative MP he did not want Britain's prisons to be dustbins—penal or otherwise.

Mr Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury, C) had asked if the Home Secretary would consider a reappraisal of the prison regime with a view to achieving a better balance between punishment and reform.

Mr Mayhew: It is not the function of prison regimes to add to the punishment of the sentence of the court. The Prison Department is constantly seeking to develop new and positive elements within the prison regimes despite the pressures on resources.

Mr McNair-Wilson: If we are to counteract the concept of prisons as penal dustbins we should give thought not only to improving the fabric, but the purpose of imprisonment. What is the Home Office research unit doing in looking at these aspects of the penal system?

Mr Mayhew: We do not want our prisons to be dustbins of any kind—penal or otherwise. It is important that the regimes, notwithstanding the shortage of resources that we suffer at the moment, should be as positive as possible.

The regimes committee is carrying out continuous re-appraisal of regimes with a review of the prison service philosophy of management and arranging prisoners' home leave. About four different groups are undertaking examinations of different aspects of the matter.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk, Lab): An appropriate balance between punishment and reform cannot be achieved while overcrowding in local prisons makes it impossible to sustain even basic, minimum standards of human decency.

This will be exacerbated by the introduction of partial suspended sentences. Would he reconsider this decision and introduce a scheme of supervised release which would have the effect of reducing the prison population immediately by 7,000?

Mr Mayhew: The answer to the first part—is it impossible for a proper balance to be maintained at present—is generally and unhappily "Yes".

The reason why supervised release would not be satisfactory is that there is a prospect it might add to the numbers of people in prison rather than reduce them.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C): If more of our prisons provided constructive work for prisoners, it would contribute not only towards reform of offenders but also help to punish those who are in prison because they are workshy?

Mr Mayhew: It is a continuous effort of the prison service to provide opportunities for worthwhile work for inmates in prison. This is the case notwithstanding the shortage of resources that we have.

The purpose of prison is partly to help prepare inmates for a useful and self-supporting life outside prison.

Mr Alexander Lyon (York, Lab): Since there can be no effective prison regime until we cut the number of people in prison, has the Home Secretary not denied himself the possibility of that by capitulating to the judges and magistrates in refusing to reduce the amount of time spent in prison.

Lawrence: Insulting to memory of Servicemen

If that is now the case, does it not mean we have urgently to move towards legislation?

Mr Mayhew: There is no capitulation. The reason why the Home Secretary has changed his mind, as he has made clear, is that he has consulted and heeded what he has been told.

It is absurd to talk of capitulation when one is talking about consultation that has been properly carried out, the results of which have been listened to.

Extremists should not fly the flag

The Home Secretary is considering prohibiting by law the use of the Union Jack by political extremists, Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State, Home Office, said.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C) had asked what representations the Home Secretary had received about the abuse of the flag by political extremist groups at Remembrance Day services and whether he proposed to take any action.

Mr Raison (Aylesbury, C): The Home Secretary has received a specific complaint about the use of the union flag by such a group at the Cenotaph this year and both written and oral representations about its use by such groups on other occasions.

He is considering the suggestion that this should be prohibited by law in the course of his review of the Public Order Act, 1936, and related legislation.

Mr Lawrence: For the National Front to use the union flag in demonstrations at Remembrance Day services is extremely insulting to the memory of the Servicemen who died for this country in the fight against fascism and extremely distressing to their families. Has not the time come to legislate, to at any rate stop abuse of the union flag in public marches?

Mr Raison: I entirely share his repugnance. There are practical problems in working out how to prevent the use of the flag by particular groups. We are thinking about this in the context of our review of the Public Order Act.

Mr Greville Janner (Leicester, West, Lab): Use of the flag apart, the appearance of fascist organizations at the Cenotaph causes great offence to everyone. Will the Home Secretary, in the course of his review of the Public Order Act and the Scarman recommendations, consider the possibility of selective bans on fascist marches and other demonstrations, at least on that occasion?

Mr Raison: The whole question of marches and racial incitement is part of the examination being undertaken by the Home Secretary into the Public Order Act.

Whitelaw wants coloured policemen

It would be helpful to have more members of ethnic communities joining the police force, and desirable to have more police officers on foot patrol, Mr Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said during other questions time exchanges.

It would be a mistake to have quotas inside police forces; it had been tried elsewhere and failed. We should not (he said) go down that road.

Mr Frederick Silvester (Manchester, Withington, C) asked if there had been an increase in the number of foot patrols now operated by the police.

Mr Whitelaw replied: I know chief officers share my view that it is desirable to put more officers on foot patrol both to improve contact between the police and the community, and to provide more effective policing.

Mr Silvester: Will he pay special attention to that part of the Scarman report concerned with the status of the beat officer? Is he satisfied that establishments are sufficient to enable enough people to be fulfilling this duty?

Mr Whitelaw: Yes. The police service has strengthened by some 7,500 since this Government came to power and that should give the opportunity for more foot patrols.

Mr Jo Grimond (Orkney and Shetland, L): His statement on the importance of having more police on the beat will be welcomed, because there is a wide demand for it.

Are the Metropolitan Police up to strength? Are they making any progress on this? Is there any increase in foot patrols?

Mr Whitelaw: Yes indeed. The Metropolitan Police are not yet fully up to strength, but are at 25,000 for the first time in their 150 years' history. After the recent review, the Commissioner has been able to release over 900 officers for operational street duties.

Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton, North, C): Has the Home Secretary been made aware of reports that since the presence of foot patrols in Brixton has been reduced, the level of crime has been increased.

Mr Whitelaw: The police foot patrols in Brixton are important, as is the need to deal with crime in Brixton. Nothing Lord Scarman has said, nothing anyone else has said, leaves any doubt that the need to deal with crime without differing standards throughout our community is essential.

Mr Tom McNally (Stockport, South, SDP): Has the Home Secretary any fresh proposals to encourage members of the ethnic communities to join the police force?

Mr Whitelaw: Yes, it is true. It would be helpful if we had more and we need people in their communities to encourage them to join.

Those in their communities have to treat them well when they do join, and not say they are scabs, or whatever it may be. Equally, they have to reach the right standards so that when we have the chance to improve the quality of the police, they reach these standards and quality for police service on their own merits.

Random checks on police accepted

During question time exchanges on the Scarman report, Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab) asked whether the Home Secretary accepted the recommendations about random checks on police stations and the banning of racialist marches.

Mr Whitelaw: The banning of racialist marches, which I have done on a considerable scale during recent months, is something we should consider within the review of public order.

I also accept the need, and expect to consider carefully, how best to achieve arrangements for lay people visiting police stations.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): The prime duty of the police is to protect the public and deter criminals. Since the Brixton riots there has been an increase in street crime of about 25 per cent, mainly the mugging of white people by blacks.

Mr Whitelaw: I support what he says, that it is the job of the police to deal with crime from wherever it comes. Those are the words of Lord Scarman. He said it would be right to retain the special patrol group and the powers of stop and search.

He said it was important to face up to the need for the police to deal with crime of all kinds and I fully support what he said.

I appreciate the problem of policing some of the difficult areas in inner cities. I equally accept that we cannot accept the continuation of crime such as exists in Brixton at present, and that is something the police have to deal with as well.

Next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Debate on role of Comptroller and Auditor General.

Tuesday: Motion on Appropriation (No 3) (Northern Ireland) Order.

Wednesday: Debate on Opposition motion on the emergency in the prisons.

Thursday: Shipbuilding Bill and Nuclear Industry (Finance) Bill, remaining stages. Humberside Bill, report stage.

Friday: Private member's motion on West Midlands.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Tuesday: Mental Health Bill, second reading.

Wednesday: Debate on effects of Government policy on education.

Thursday: Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Bill and Security Officers Control Bill, second readings. Debate on direct broadcasting by satellite.

MP ejected by Speaker in day of turmoil

PROCEDURE

Mr Arthur Lewis (Newham, North-West, Lab) was ordered from the Commons after an angry exchange with the Speaker (Mr George Thomas), who ruled he had wasted the time of the House with a five minute point of order on ministerial leaks.

Mr Lewis had said that today they had heard Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, quoting official ministerial statements, and Mr William Whitelaw, the deputy prime minister, saying there would be a statement by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer next Wednesday, but then refusing to answer questions.

When were they going to have something done to protect the right of MPs who were second to the media, second to the press and second to everyone else?

When Mr Lewis was interrupted by the Speaker he claimed this was the only way he could get to be called. When he resumed his point of order and went on to talk about "leaking and leaking", the Speaker again intervened and told Mr Lewis to resume his seat.

Mr Lewis refused shouting "No. No."

The Speaker said: I have no desire to pick a quarrel. Mr Lewis, above all, has been here so long, he ought to observe the rules of the House. His point of order has already wasted four minutes of the time of the House. I am not proposing to allow him to continue any further. I am telling him to sit down.

If he persists I shall ask him to leave, but I have no desire to do that.

Mr Lewis: I want to raise another point of order.

The Speaker: I am not taking another point of order at this stage. I have given you one more opportunity to recognize that the House has been tolerant with you. You have been allowed to take five minutes when I know there is great pressure for two short debates that are going to take place today. No one can say I have not shown patience. (Cheers.)

Therefore, it is just good manners on your part to accept the ruling of the chair and leave it there.

Mr Lewis: What is the ruling?

The Speaker: The ruling is you have wasted our time for five minutes and have not made a substantial point of order on which I can rule.

Mr Lewis: I have another point of order.

The Speaker: I ask you to leave the precincts of this House for the rest of this day's sitting.

As Mr Lewis protested, the Speaker added: Order. I gave you warning after warning. You took no notice and you will leave.

Mr Lewis moved to the bar of the House and shouted before he left: I cannot raise another point of order.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private member's motion on information technology.

Government planning to make criminals pay compensation

LAW AND ORDER

The Government intended to improve the existing ability of the courts to order criminals to compensate those whom they had violently attacked, Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State, Home Office, said during a debate on a Liberal motion on law and order.

Where a criminal's means were not sufficient for him to pay reasonable compensation and a reasonable fine, he said, the duty to compensate his victim should have priority. The Government would introduce proposals at an early stage to achieve this.

The Government also intended that parents should be ordered to compensate a victim of an offence committed by their child, unless the court was satisfied it would not be reasonable in all the circumstances to do so. To the victim it often seemed that his interests were less than the interests of the criminal. These measures would help correct that impression.

The House accepted a Liberal Party motion, moved by Mr David Steel, leader of the party, which stated: "That this House believes that the maintenance of law and order and preservation of liberty depend upon a relationship of confidence and cooperation between the police and local communities, and therefore draws particular attention to the need for community policing methods and an independent procedure by which complaints against the police can be examined; considers that inadequate help is given to the victims of violent crime; and further considers that urgent action is needed to deal with the crisis in the prisons."

He said the government should act swiftly and imaginatively by implementing all the detailed recommendations in the Scarman report. It would be a mistake simply to single out one or two reforms, however worthy, undertake them, and then brand the remaining recommendations as merely a statement of Lord Scarman's philosophy. A programme for specific action was needed.

Even before the Brixton riots there had been general public concern about policing methods and the general principles the Government was following in the development of a modern police force.

Successive governments had devoted substantial resources in an attempt to cure the problem of inner cities but he was not sure the money had always been put to the most imaginative and best use. Greater forward thinking on how the life of these areas should be developed and redeveloped, rather than simply looking at the money put in, might be more fruitful.

There was great confidence in the police force overall, but a disturbing increase in the numbers of people who distrusted the police. The Police Federation's switch of view on having an independent complaints system was welcome.

"Considering the number of allegations of racial discrimination against the police which MPs received, it was astonishing that, as far as was known, not one officer had ever been dismissed for racial prejudice. Lord Scarman's suggestion of penalties for this was welcome.

The most important point the Liberals wanted to make was a plea for more community policing. That meant a reversal of the policies which had been almost automatically adopted in most constabularies over a long period of time. More modern, more centralized offices and greater use of motorized police had taken them further away from local communities.

Mr Patrick Mayhew said Mr Whitelaw had stated in the clearest terms his acceptance of Lord Scarman's philosophy on policing and his resolve that it should be a carried into practice.

There was a great deal of confidence in the police. He agreed they had to seek to establish a relationship of mutual trust and respect. That is what a relationship of confidence amounted to.

Policing must take account of and respond to special needs and characteristics of the local community and that was the essence of what were generally known as community policing methods. It was not a new concept. It had a long pedigree in the Metropolitan Police force as other forces.


Steel: Act swiftly and imaginatively

There was no single model of community policing for universal application. But there were certain features which were common to those schemes which were the most successful.

All the successful schemes of community policing had emphasised the return of officers to the beat. That is what the public wanted and they were right to want it.

It was on the streets of towns and cities, and in the lanes and villages of rural areas that the police made their most effective contribution. It was there that they preserved the peace and offered to the villain the risk of being caught. They also reassured the public.

The maintenance of law and order depended, in addition to the relationship of confidence, upon police catching those who committed crimes and deterring those who would like to.

If they do not catch them or deter them (he added) then no amount of good works in the community will win police the community's confidence.

The complaints system had to be substantially reformed and the Home Secretary would be bringing proposals to the House as soon as he could.

The Government had turned its attention again towards what had long been Conservative policy in principle—the concept of sentences which were partially suspended. It intended that in some cases as little as 28 days would be served in custody. The consultations the Government had already had gave it good ground for confidence that the judiciary would use partial sentences in such a way as to avoid the risks the Government had previously foreseen.

Dr David Owen (Plymouth, SDP) said society had tolerated for too long the expression of violence through television coming in at all hours of the day and night and frequently seen by young people.

It might well be that the mass of the population could absorb this continued portrayal of violence in the home without any lowering of their threshold of abhorrence to violence, but there was a significant group in the population who were deeply affected by this. It was a matter of high priority to tackle this problem.

The Scarman report contained much wisdom, and he hoped that the Home Secretary would come to the House with the most detailed implementation proposals.

He wished he could agree with Lord Scarman that institutional racialism did not exist in Britain. Until a much higher percentage of the ethnic minority was reflected in many of the crucial decision-making bodies of this country it would be hard to resist the argument that there was a form of institutionalized racialism.

Mr Dudley Smith (Warwick and Leamington, C) said crime was now reaching epidemic proportions. Two sinister aspects associated with this were the greater use of violence and the vicious targeting of the weakest in society.

It was the duty of society to give a much tougher response than it had. The Government's firstduty was to protect the lives and property of its citizens. A desperate situation was developing which needed matching remedies on the Government's part. He did not believe it was adequately supplying these at present.

Mr Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight, L) sai dhe did not believe the answer lay in incarcerating more people but that community work and discipline were needed. They should seriously consider a period of compulsory community service for the young.

Mr Thomas Benyon (Abingdon, C) said however bleak the prospect of reducing the crime wave, there were reforms which the Home Office might undertake. Why were drunks, prostitutes, inadequates and vagrants jailed? The number of offenders making restitution was only 5 per cent and they should try to work that up as much as possible.

Mr George Cunningham, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Islington, South and Finsbury, Lab), said that the Opposition accepted all the propositions in the motion.

He had been appalled to find that there were people in custody on remand, who had been there for more than two years, and the Home Office could not say how many.

The Scarman report had been produced on a series of incidents of a desperate character and it needed a quick and specific response. There was nothing outrageous or worrying in the recommendations.

Sex shops may need licences

LOCAL POWERS

The Government is considering whether sex shops should be licensed, particularly those in the Greater London Council area, Mr Giles Shaw, Under Secretary of State for the Environment made clear when winding up the debate on Wednesday night on the second reading of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill.

He added that a report was expected shortly on prostitution which would include discussion on whether brothels should be made legal. The Government would not promote legislation in advance of the report.

The Bill, which was read a second time, brings together in public legislation powers contained in a number of private Acts giving local authorities powers to licence certain establishments in their areas providing entertainment and powers to control, among other things, late night refereshment houses and tattooing parlours.

Mr Shaw said discussion for licensing sex shops in London had proceeded a fair way but major difficulties had been encountered. These included devising an effective scheme which did not apply to forms of trading which MPs would regard as perfectly legitimate.

There was, for example, the danger of classifying Boots, the chemists, as a sex shop simply because they sold contraceptives. Hopefully the GLC Bill would be published shortly.

The problems of prostitution in Southampton were particularly severe.

The Home Secretary's Criminal Law Revision Committee (he said) will be shortly issuing a working paper for public comment on the subject of prostitution. We would hope this would be issued in the first half of next year.

The Government has no intention of promoting legislation on this topic in advance of the committee's report. It will be only after the fullest consultation has taken place on the working paper.

The Bill was read a second time.

It will include discussion on whether brothels should be licensed or otherwise permitted in certain areas of a city.

Boxing Bill knocked out

HOUSE OF LORDS

An attempt to ban professional boxing was defeated by 77 votes to 47 when the Boxing Bill, introduced by Lord Taylor of Gryfe (SDP) failed by 30 votes to get a second reading.

The Bill was opposed by the Government because it impinged on the freedom of individuals to compete against each other in the sport of their choice. The last attempt to ban boxing, initiated by the late Lady Summerskill in 1962, was defeated by 29 votes to 22.

Lord Taylor of Gryfe (SDP), moving the second reading, said under the Bill any person who organised a boxing match for profit would be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction or indictment to a fine not exceeding £20,000, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or to both.

What had stimulated his interest in reviving the debate on boxing, which has seemed to die with the passing of Lady Summerskill, was the report he read year ago on Johnny Owen, a young Welshman who died in a Los Angles hospital of respipatory complications due to prolonged coma.

A few weeks later a likeable West Indian, Maurice Hope, lay on the canvas unconscious for almost 10 minutes, his body shaking in convulsive shudders.

Those two events had taken place outside the United Kingdom, but it was the route British boxers must take to attain fame or retain championships.

The perpetration of violence was evil. Anything encouraged or glorified, it damaged the fabric of a civilised society. Boxing frequently resulted in brain damage and sometimes death. There was no moral justification for organising for profit a public spectacle in which the main object was for one human being to knock another unconscious.

This is glamorised vilence (he said) and it educes our sensitivity to violence.

Medical evidence was overwhelming. He noticed that Mohammed Ali was no longer as fluent as he once was. The last British winner of an Olympic gold medal was Chris Finnigan. Now he was almost blind and unemployed.

Among the boxing fraternity there was an adage—first the timing goes, then the legs, then the mind and then the friends. That was he hisory of many people hrough boxing an easy way o rics.

As a Christian he believed bodies, brains and intelligence were God given and to be used in God's service. To inflict punishment which impaired the body and its facilities was not consistent with Ch istian conduct.

The Bill would not prevent boxing in schools or at an amateur level where statistics showed that damage was very limited compared with the professional sport. But he thought the so-called noble art had no place in society as it was degrading and encouraged lower motives. Norway and Sweden had already taken the lead by banning professional boxing.

Lord Morris (C) said that no one had ever been forced to box, no one had been forced to watch it and the British Boxing Board of Control made thorough investigations before issuing or renewing licences.

The Bill was joyless, politically naive and a miserable little measure with no merit in it whatsoever. If it were to go through, it would bring the House into disrepute and make it a laughing stock.

It was a classic example of a well-intentioned idea which would further erode the rights of the individual.

Lord Belhaven and Stenton (Scot Nat said the human body simply was not made to be a punch bag and that was even more certain in the case of the human brain. It was an abuse of the creation of God to allow it to be continually pummelled until, if it went on long enough, a man could become a idiot.

It was wrong that young men should be drawn into the sport by sleezy commercial interests.

Lord Nunburnholme (C) said the Bill would have to be looked at closely as there could be legal ambiguity over the meaning of the word "profit". If an exhibition bout were held for charity, the charity would obviously intend to make a profit so would that make it illegal? If th eBill went through, the lawyers would be making the profits.

Lord Longford (Lab) said he favoured the Bill because of the base instincts that boxing brought out in those who watched it. Evil passions could be aroused among spectators.

Lord Noel-Baker (Lab) said he disliked the idea of fighting and he disliked the emotions it created among those who watched it. It seemed to arose feelings of savagery among spectators. That was an undesirable phenomenon.

Lord Shinwell (Lab) said that as president of the London branch of the World Sporting Club he had never witnessed anything which was improper. He was also an honorary member of the Brighton and London branches of the ex-boxers' association.

When I have attended some of their functions (he continued) I am bound to say that, looking at some of the older people attending, there was hardly a sign that they had been involved in a contest, and they were the most amenable, delightful and civilized people I have ever met—as civilized as anybody in this House. (Laughter.)

The Earl of Avon (Lord in Waiting), for the Government, said that the effect of the Bill on boxing could be catastrophic, and the effect on other sports could equally be enormous. The democratic society they all believed in gave the individual the fundamental right to choose a sport in which he wished to participate. By legislating against one particular sport the House would withdraw that right.

Boxing should be a sport where skill and self-defence were part of a training. The medical profession had played a major part in formulating a medical system within the Queensberry rules.

What we must accept he said is that those entering the boxing arena do so in the full knowledge that an injury may occur. Individuals enter boxing from their own interest in the sport. They are subject to the most stringent medical discipline before they are allowed to compete.

Boxing was supported by the personal decision of an individual to participate. The Bill could, if enacted, be taken as a precedent by others to seek to control sport. The Government could not support proposals which impinged so drastically on the individual freedom of citizens to compete against each other in the sport of their choice.

Chancellor to make statement on spending next week

ECONOMY

There is to be a Government statement next week on public expenditure, but Mr Francis Pym, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, said that he could not yet say which day, in spite of pressure from MPs for it to be made soon.

The matter was first raised during questions about next week's business by Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, who said that the Government was compelled to make a statement under the provisions of legislation. He also raised the question of the Local Government Finance Bill.

We understand (he said) that a major part of the Bill, the so-called referendum part, has been dropped and we greatly welcome that if it is so, because we have opposed the unconstitutional nature of that since it was announced.

What has happened to it? Will any part of the Bill be introduced?

He asked for a clear commitment by the Government to a debate on the Scarman report, at latest the week after next, saying that nobody could exactly determine what Mr Whitelaw had been proposing in his statement yesterday.

When judgment is passed on the appeal by the GLC against the judgment of the court of appeal there should be a debate in this House because, whatever the judgment, matters of first-rate constitutional importance are raised.

Mr Pym: The Government is still considering aspects of the Local Government Finance Bill. (Laughter.) When we come to a conclusion, the House will be informed.

There will be a statement on Government expenditure next week. I cannot say which day but I agree that the earlier the better. We shall make a full statement.

I think Mr Foot was rather unreasonable in his criticisms of the Home Secretary who came forward with a full statement yesterday and gave an infinitely clearer indication of Government response on a number of important matters than is normally given when an important report is published.

Mr Foot: The statement on public expenditure is of great importance to the country and of great concern in the light of the suggestion that the Government even contemplate cuts in unemployment pay when more are hit by unemployment than ever before. Surely he can give the timing of the announcement.

Perhaps we can have another leakage. If the Government cannot say it officially they can leak it, because that seems the way they best hit the headlines.

Mr Pym said that he could not yet say which day the statement would be made.

Mr Guy Barnett (Greenwich, Lab): Will Mr Pym reconsider his reply on the Local Government Finance Bill? I understand and we all understand the reasons the Government is reconsidering the matter. The Government has caused chaos for local government up and down the country which ought to be considering seriously estimates for the coming year. We should have a statement, if not a Bill, giving the precise intentions of the Government.

Mr Pym: I do not accept that the consideration we are giving to this is having the effect he says and I have nothing to add.

Tories back 'Times' letter

A letter in today's The Times signed by 17 leading industrialists was raised during questions to the Prime Minister.

Mr Fergus Montgomery (Altrincham and Sale, C) said the letter urged the Government not be deflected in its broad strategy against inflation by the rising volume of often partisan opposition. This is the view (he added) of every MP on the Conservative side of the House. (Labour interruptions.)

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, replying in Mrs Thatcher's absence, said: I certainly saw that letter. I would have thought that all MPs on this side would greatly welcome its contents. I know, of course, that it would not be acceptable to the Labour Party who want to spend a great deal more money. (Labour protests.)

The anatomy of a riot—by Lord Scarman

Lord Scarman relates how on Friday, April 10, some young blacks in Brixton had misunderstood the efforts of two separate pairs of constables to help a young black man who had been stabbed by other blacks and was running away. One of the second pair of constables who came upon him in a cab pressed down on the injured youth's chest to try to seal a suspected puncture of the lung. A crowd of 30 to 40 youths thought the black youth was being attacked. Disorder broke out. It was the fuse for the main riot on Saturday April 11.

Lord Scarman's findings on the riots in Brixton on Friday and Saturday April 10 and 11 have been widely reported. But his well documented presentation of what really happened on the streets is a remarkable and inevitably dramatic piece of reconstruction. This abridged but detailed account is essential reading for anyone who wishes fully to understand the events of that Saturday, the nature of the disturbances and the police reaction to them. It is taken from Part III of Lord Scarman's report "The Brixton Disorders" HMSO, Command 8427, price £8.

Saturday April 11 began as an apparently normal, busy day in Brixton. The weather was fine and the streets and market were crowded.

At 2 pm the 112 officers in "L" District engaged in Operation Swamp came on duty, 48 of them in the Brixton area. Squad 7, consisting of 12 officers, had been operating in plain clothes throughout the week in Railton Road and Mayall Road and the surrounding area. At about 4.40 pm two of the officers from this squad — PC L. Cameron (aged 20) and PC L. Thornton (aged 24) — were walking back to Brixton Police Station from Dulwich Road via Kellett Road and Atlantic Road when they saw a blue Datsun car parked outside Number 82 Atlantic Road, the office of S & M Car Hire. As the two officers passed the car they looked in and saw the driver placing what appeared to be pieces of folded paper in his right sock. Having in mind the reputation of the area for drug trading, they thought that the pieces of paper might contain drugs and decided to investigate.

The officers approached the driver and questioned him about what he had in his socks. They explained that

'The officer looked up — bricks and stones were coming through the air towards him'

they thought he might be in possession of drugs and asked if they could search him. The driver laughed and told them that as a mini-cab driver it was his practice to put his money in his socks for safe-keeping. He agreed to be searched. PC Cameron searched him and found nothing incriminating. The pieces of paper proved, as the cab driver had said, to be bank notes. While PC Cameron was searching the cab driver a crowd of some 30, mainly black youths, had begun to assemble on the pavement outside the S & M Car Hire Office. The officers noticed this and that the crowd was hostile; they decided, however, to continue their investigation.

PC Cameron went with the cab driver to the rear of the car where he began to take down the driver's particulars. PC Thornton walked round the front of the car to check the Road Fund licence and then began to walk down the outside of the pavement in front of the S & M Car Hire There is dispute about what precisely happened. According to PC Thornton, as he attempted to rejoin his colleague, he found his way blocked by a young black man who was leaning against the side of the blue Datsun. The officer asked the young man to move but the latter simply abused him. The officer alleges that the young man then pushed him in the chest with both hands. According to the young man, the officer threatened him and trod on his foot, causing him to react and push the officer.

Whatever the circumstances, it is clear that at this point the young black man was arrested by PC Thornton for obstructing a police officer in the execution of his duty. It is alleged by the officer that when he took hold of the young man, the latter became extremely violent. A police van, for which the officers had made a radio request, arrived at 4.48 pm.

As the police van drew away with PCs Cameron and Thornton and the young man in it, the crowd around the van rocked it. A missile was thrown, smashing the window of the nearside rear door and flinging the van door open. The van stopped momentarily when PC Cameron saw a uniformed police officer stagger out of the crowd holding his stomach, and went to assist him.

Inspector Scotchford, who was Duty Inspector at Brixton Police Station, received a radio call at 4.52 pm that a person had been stabbed near the S & M Car Hire Office (in fact the policeman had been winded, not stabbed). He went immediately to the scene. On his arrival, he saw a large crowd, a number of police officers, some in uniform and others in plain clothes, and several police vans and a police dog van parked just north of the Triangle, the apex of Railton and Mayall Roads. Traffic in Atlantic Road had come to a standstill. Inspector Scotchford realised at once that the situation was serious. He asked over his radio for the two senior officers on duty at Brixton Police Station that Saturday — Chief Superintendent Boyling and Chief Inspector Benn — to come to the scene.

When, a few moments latter, Chief Superintendent Boyling and Chief Inspector Benn arrived separately on the scene they were immediately surrounded by a large and hostile crowd. It was about 5.10 pm. The crowd was complaining about the earlier arrests, about police harassment and alleging that some police officers had been wearing National Front badges. A young black man, Mr Tony Morgan, who was on the scene and had witnessed the initial incident, warned Chief Superintendent Boyling that if he did not get his officers out of the area, there would be a riot. Mr Boyling did not take this advice literally. But he did take steps to try to defuse the situation.

Mr Boyling was standing talking to Mr Morgan about what should be done when he noticed that the crowd in Atlantic Road was covering the full width of the road. Suddenly there was a cry of "Look out". Looking up, the Chief Superintendent saw bricks and stones coming through the air towards him. The missiles hit the police dog van parked across the apex of the Triangle, smashing its windows.

The crowd surged up to the dog van and turned it on its side. A young black man set it alight. A police car nearby was also set alight. Chief Suprintendent Boyling saw that he was confronted by a serious breakdown of law and order. He took two decisions. He called for urgent assistance from all over the Metropolitan Police District. He also ordered the officers with him to draw their truncheons and to charge the crowd to the north in Atlantic Road, so as to disperse them.

Having cleared Atlantic Road, Chief Superintendent Boyling then took steps to secure it against the possibility that the crowd might return. He also asked for his senior officer, the Acting Commander, Chief Superintendent Nicholson to come the the scene. The time was 5.27 pm.

When Chief Superintendent Nicholson arrived in response to Chief Superintendent Boyling's call he took charge at the scene. Looking south down Railton Road, Chief Superintendent Nicholson and Chief Superintendent Boyling could see a crowd in Railton Road at the junction with Leeson Road. Chief Superintendent Boyling tried to gather enough officers together to go south down Railton Road and join with Inspector Scotchford, who had gone down Mayall Road to Leeson Road, in dispersing the crowd.

As Inspector Scotchford and his officers — about 20 in number — turned right into Leeson Road, they saw that the road was packed with people and were met by a hail of bricks, bottles and other missiles including broken lengths of metal railing. The officers took what shelter they could behind parked vehicles and in the angle of the Windsor Castle at the junction of Mayall and Leeson Roads. Some officers commandeered dustbin lids. They subsequently made a number of attempts to advance into Leeson Road but each time the barrage of missiles forced them back. Police casualties were heavy.

While they were held at the corner by the Windsor Castle, Inspector Scotchford and his officers were joined first by Chief Inspector Benn and then by Chief Superintendent Boyling.

A police tender with shields on board arrived in Mayall Road in response to calls from Chief Superintendent Boyling and Inspector Scotchford at about 6.18 pm. Having equipped their officers with shields, Chief Superintendent Boyling and Inspector Scotchford made another attempt to clear Leeson Road. Many officers were injured, three as a result of petrol bombs.

Shortly after, some reinforcements arrived in the shape of a number of officers from the Special Patrol Group. With this assistance, the officers made a final but again unsuccessful attempt to advance into Leeson Road. More police officers were injured. Chief Superintendent Boyling ordered his men to withdraw northwards up Mayall Road. As they withdrew leaving behind a police van, the crowd pursued the officers, throwing everything that came to hand. They overturned the van and set it alight, along with two other cars in Leeson Road. It was now that members of the crowd set fire to the Windsor Castle Public House. The police withdrew up Mayall Road to its junction with Railton Road at the Triangle. Here they formed a cordon facing south across the mouth of Mayall Road. Later the police formed a base which extended the length of Atlantic Road from Coldharbour Lane to the Triangle. South of the Triangle, Railton and Mayall Roads were held by the crowd.

At about 5.55 pm a No. 2 Bus on its normal route from Herne Hill north up Railton Road to Atlantic Road had been commandeered by people in the crowd about the Leeson Road Railton Road junction. After an unsuccessful attempt to overturn the bus in Railton Road, (the conductor having previously been assaulted and robbed of his takings,) a member of the crowd drove it, with other people from the crowd on board, north up Railton Road towards the police line at the junction with Atlantic Road. Seeing the bus and the crowd coming towards the police line with the apparent intention of breaking it, one of the officers they were without shields threw a brick at the windscreen of the bus. The windscreen smashed, the man driving the bus jumped out and it veered to the right of the police line, eventually coming to rest against a wall at the top of Railton Road near the junction with Kellett Road. The bus incident illustrated the aggressive spirit of the crowd and the defensive posture imposed upon the police by the lack of adequate reinforcements.

It was into this scene of riot that the Commander of "L" District. Commander Fairbairn, had arrived at about 6.15 pm. He immediately asked for more shields to be supplied and for a helicopter to be sent to assist him by overseeing the movement of the crowd. The helicopter could not be made available because of lack of crew, but shortly afterwards a tender arrived with the shields.

Commander Fairburn saw at once that he had insufficient officers to disperse the crowd facing him. He decided that the best he could do was to try to

'They tried to advance — but each time a barrage of missiles forced them back'

contain the situation until he had sufficient officers to move forward and clear the area. He envisaged doing this by a pincer movement from both ends of Railton Road. This approach was confirmed by Deputy Assistant Commissioner Walker, responsible for Number 4 Area of the Metropolitan Police of which "L" District is part, when he arrived on the scene at about 6.30 pm, and it remained the basis of police strategy throughout the rest of the evening.

Chief Superintendent Boyling and Inspector Scotchford having withdrawn from Mayall and Leeson Roads, the police consolidated their hold across the junction of Railton and Mayall Roads with Atlantic Road at the Triangle. Gradually a double cordon was put across Railton Road facing south, with a single cordon across Mayall Road facing south and another single cordon at the junction of Kellett and Talma Roads. The crowd meanwhile were maintaining their attack on the Railton Road cordon, were hurling iron railings, bricks, petrol bombs and lengths of wood at and over the police shields and even pouring various liquids (in one case a bottle of whisky) over the shields. Several officers were injured as burning petrol ran down their shields.

At about 7 pm Commander Fairburn was approached by four people in a determined attempt to mediate between the police and the crowd. Of the four, two were members of Lambeth Borough Council, Councillors John Boyle and Stewart Lansley, one was the Anglican Vicar of St Mathew's Church, Brixton, the Reverend Robert Nind, and the other was Mr Tony Morgan, who had remained in the area since he had been asked to do so by Mr Boyling.

Once they passed behind the upturned vehicles, the mediators were seized by some of the crowd who told them their terms for dispersing. They wanted the police to withdraw, they wanted an end to police harassment and they wanted those arrested to be released.

After returning to the police lines, the mediators relayed these messages to Commander Fairbairn. The Commander, however, did not believe that those who had said they would disperse if the police withdrew could, even if they wished, enforce their view on others in the crowd. He maintained his refusal to withdraw.

The attack by the crowd on the police cordon in Railton Road continued until 8.45 pm when the police were at last sufficiently reinforced to be able to move forward. Petrol bombs and other missiles were continually hurled at the line of police shields. At one point a car was pushed to within a few feet of the police line. Shortly after the police saw a black man pour liquid from a jerry can across Railton Road and beckon them to come forward. In spite of the constant attacks, the police under Commander Fairbairn continued to hold their line while gradually reinforcements were brought into the area. During this critical phase the officers in the line, supported by their Commander's leadership and encouraged by the comradeship of their colleagues displayed exemplary steadiness and courage. Some, it is clear, picked up stones or other missiles which had been thrown at them, and flung them back. It may not have been lawful: but it was understandable, and excusable, when in self-defence.

While the centre of the disorder was Leeson Road and the northern end of Railton Road, its effects were being felt over a wide area of central Brixton. In the commercial area of Brixton Road, the northern half of Atlantic Road, Electric Avenue and Coldharbour Lane, widespread looting had developed since about 6 pm. Both whites and blacks — some of them very young — were involved. To several witnesses, the whites appeared to be generally older, and more systematic in their methods. It also appears that the looters were, in the main, quite different from the people who were attacking the police

The other major area in which the police were enforcedly absent lay, of course, south of the police lines at the Triangle, in Mayall and Railton Roads and in the streets to the west of there. This was territory effectively held by the rioters.

In one of the most disturbing aspects of the disorders, ambulances and fire engines responding to calls for help in this area were attacked and an ambulanceman and several fire officers injured. Altogether on Saturday evening one ambulanceman and 14 fire officers were reported injured and four ambulances and nine fire appliances were damaged. Four fire appliances were temporarily abandoned by their crews in the face of the hostility of the crowd, a turntable ladder was stolen and set alight, and a considerable quantity of Fire Brigade equipment was stolen or damaged. The crowd in Railton Road, which consisted mainly of black people but with some white people present, had begun to move south down Railton Road, entering commercial and other premises, including a number of private houses, stealing their contents and in some cases setting fire to the buildings.

The main concentration of fires in Railton Road lay near the junction with Effra Parade. The fire brigade had been unable to deal with them because of the hostility of the crowd. With the courage and decisiveness which were to prove characteristic of his conduct that evening, Chief Superintendent Robinson decided to advance along Effra Parade with four of his detachments equipped with shields, so as to clear the way for fire appliances to tackle the fires. As he was making his arrangements, the fire appliances were instructed by their control to leave the scene due to the hostility of the crowd, but they agreed to await the outcome of the police action.

Chief Superintendent Robinson then led about 60 to 70 officers behind a single line of shields along Effra Parade towards the junction with Railton Road. As the officers neared the junction they could see a large crowd numbering perhaps 300 to 400 in Railton Road, which soon began to direct a heavy barrage of missiles at them. The police cordon stopped briefly just short of the junction while Mr Robinson surveyed the many fires in Railton Road — which were well advanced — and agreed a course of action to clear the junction with his senior officers.

The police were immediately attacked ferociously by the crowd, and one of two cordons stopped facing north across Railton Road under a hail of bricks, bottles, tiles, pieces of wood, milk crates, scaffold poles and petrol bombs. Another cordon was similarly subjected to a fierce barrage of missiles including petrol bombs and a new weapon, spinning plates. In spite of this the other cordon managed to advance slowly as far as the northern edge of the junction of Railton Road and Chaucer Road, where they were halted by the sustained bombardment from the crowd.

Chief Superintendant Robinson radioed for ambulances and for police assistance. He also summoned the fire appliances to begin to tackle the fires around the junction of Effra Parade and Railton Road. He then went south to the cordon at Chaucer Road. Once there he decided that his officers would have to extend their control over the whole of the junction with Chaucer Road in order to avoid being attacked, as they now were, from the sides. Under the sustained assaults of the crowd — at one point a car was pushed as a battering ram into the police line — the officers succeeded in establishing a new cordon in Railton Road at the south side of the junction with Chaucer Road, as well as cordons across the flanks of Chaucer Road itself, thus securing the whole of the junction.

At this point, Chief Superintendent Robinson was himself hit and partially but temporarily stunned by a missile thrown from the crowd. The fire officers fought with great determination the fires around them, in spite of the danger from collapsing buildings and the missiles of the crowd, and under the difficulty that their hoses were being cut by the glass and other sharp objects which were strewn around the ground. Many police officers were injured, some seriously. As the number of police officers injured rose steadily, Chief Superintendent Robinson's calls for assistance became increasingly insistent.

Although he did not know it, the police were at last beginning to marshal sufficient officers to disperse the crowds of whose anger the Chief Superintendent and his men were the target. At about 8.30 pm Commander Adams (at the time of the disturbances in charge of the Traffic Division of the Metropolitan Police, but Commander Fairbairn's predecessor as Commander of "L" District) had arrived at Brixton Police Station and had been directed by Mr Walker to take the reserves available at that time (numbering aout 150 officers, of whom about 100 were members of the Special Patrol Group) to the southern end of Railton Road, and move north, while Commander Fairbairn moved south with the object of dispersing the crowd westwards into the side streets off Railton Road, so releiving Mr Robinson.

Commander Fairbairn was himself injured at about 8.30 pm but about 15 minutes later he gave the order for officers in the cordon at the northern end of Railton Road to begin their advance south, at the same time sending other officers under Chief Superintendent Boyling south down Mayall Road to cover his flank. Under a continuing hail of missiles and petrol bombs the officers in Railton Road then began to pick their way slowly south round both burning and burnt out vehicles, clearing the remnants of the crowd behind the demolition site on the west side of Railton Road. Once beyond the vehicles, the officers reformed in a line and moved towards Dexter and Leeson Roads, the crowd dispersing in front of them as they did so.

At about 9 pm one of Mr Robinson's cordons was temporarily overwhelmed by the crowd attacking it. Many officers were injured, some of them seriously and some police shields were captured by the crowd. Considering the situation, it seemed to Mr Robinson that extraordinary measures were necessary if he was to save the position and prevent his officers or firemen being further injured or even killed. He took a hose from a fireman, ordered other officers to do likewise and turned the jets on the crowd. The action achieved the effect Mr Robinson desired. The crowd fell back and the firemen were able to continue to fight the fires.

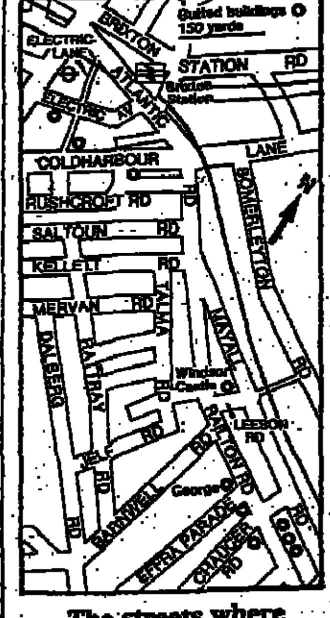
Reinforcements arrived via Effra Parade at about 9.30 pm in the shape of three detachments of officers (some with shields) under Chief Superintendent Skinner. These officers took over the one cordon and began to move northwards. It was about this time that they began to see Commander Fairbairn's men approaching with shields from the north. The crowd between the lines of officers dispersed. The police in Railton Road were left to consolidate their cordons so as to continue to protect the Fire Brigade fighting the fires in Railton Road.

By about 10.00-10.15 pm, the main disorders in the Railton Road/Mayall Road area were over, and the police were able to re-establish an effective presence throughout Brixton. By 11 pm this was completed.

Both the police and the community were now able to take stock of what had happened. In cold statistical terms, 82 people had been arrested, 279 police officers injured, 45 members of the public injured (there were probably more). 61 private vehicles and 56 police vehicles damaged or destroyed, and 145 premises damaged, 28 of them by fire. As important, however, was the effect of what had happened on the attitudes and feelings of those involved. The police had undergone an experience, till then unparalleled on the mainland of the United Kingdom. Within the community there were some who felt elated because, as they saw it, the community had taken a stand against the police: and there were some who saw disorder as an opportunity for publicised protest: but many more were saddened and uncertain at the implications of the events.

It was clear to all that the scars of what had happened would linger in Brixton, and particularly in the relationship between the police and public, for a long time to come.

Cold statistic (Lord Scarman's words): injured officer is helped by colleagues



The streets where trouble flared

David Watt

Europe calling and the super powers listen

If this were a perfect world, the EEC heads of government, now meeting in London, would be hammering out and possibly even putting the finishing touches to an agreement on the EEC budget and the common agricultural policy. As my Chatham House colleague Joan Pearce pointed out on this page earlier this week, this *may* be their best chance. In fact, they will almost certainly fence around the central issue once more and concentrate on the political questions they have most on their minds — the implications of President Reagan's nuclear weapons speech coupled with Mr Brezhnev's visit to Bonn and the row over the terms on which the Europeans should take part in the Sinai peace-keeping force.

Since, on the face of it, there is not much they can do about any of these things at this stage, this may seem a pretty daft way to spend their time. But in a way it is not. Britain's six-months presidency of the EEC Council of Ministers (of which the present conclave is the climax) has borne the imprint of Lord Carrington's diplomacy and it has been primarily a political imprint. One can argue that the attempts to keep the EEC afloat by concentrating on a rudimentary joint foreign policy rather than a solid economic compromise is ultimately misguided and irrelevant; but in fact the recent action has been on the political front, and a political stocktaking is therefore of some importance.

Nor, so far as East-West relations are concerned, is the balance discouraging. In the first place it is impossible to over-emphasize the importance of President Reagan's initiative. This lies not in the "Zero option" or indeed in any of the technical arms control aspects of the speech. The vital thing is that the new American administration is at last talking in an adult fashion about the real world. Nine months has been wasted in subservience to the rhetoric of the last presidential campaign.

There was, it was said, no possibility or point in trying to negotiate with the Soviet Union until American military parity (even, in some versions, superiority) had been restored. Soviet behaviour in the world would be the touchstone of American policy and the Russians could not expect to be admitted to civilized discourse until they had mended their ways and ceased to meddle in the developing countries. "Linkage" was all.

All this fantasy has now fallen away and we are left with a reasonably business-like approach. The Soviet Union is to be dealt with, after all, and while these dealings will obviously be affected by Soviet actions world-wide there is no reason why progress on arms control should not precede and contribute to the improvement of general relations.

The reasons for this transformation are complex. The acute difficulty the Reagan administration is now fighting in accommodating its ambitious defence budget to the demands of other parts of the US economy is one of them. Sheer familiarity with the issues, combined with that quiet reflection in hospital which Mr Reagan said had caused him to write to Mr Brezhnev last May, were others. But the most important factor has undoubtedly been steady allied pressure.

This has been exerted in the first instance through Nato machinery. But the most powerful application of it has been through the direct channels that run between London, Bonn and Paris on the one hand and Washington on the other. The political cooperation machinery of the EEC as such may not have contributed a great deal, but to some extent the leaders now gathered in London are genuinely beginning to see themselves as the political European core within the alliance, and in that sense they will legitimately regard the Reagan move as an achievement of "European" foreign policy.



Lord Carrington (with the French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson): diplomacy with a political imprint

On the Russian side it is much more difficult to claim any victories so far, but you cannot really examine recent developments without coming to the obvious conclusion that the west European countries, and particularly the EEC countries, are being cast, whether they like it or not, in a crucial role on the sidelines of the Geneva arms control talks. The Russians clearly have regarded the Europeans all along as the means of bringing the United States administration to the negotiating table in an amenable frame of mind — and for that reason they have played and will continue to play on the themes of the European peace movement for all they are worth.

Nevertheless, having spent much of the past week in Moscow discussing these questions, I have come to the conclusion, that for the Russians, Western Europe seems a much more important, ambiguous and even dangerous quantity in the present international equation than one might suppose.

One can never be sure that anything one hears in Moscow represents more than propaganda and tactics — a fact which for practical purposes I regard as one of the most criminal as well as the most stupifyingly boring consequences of the Soviet system. But there is a good deal of logical Russian self-interest in the party line that one currently receives:

● The Europeans are admittedly split on attitudes to the East and disarmament. The peace movement (while naturally representing the interests and aspirations of the working-class, etc etc) is not necessarily going to sweep the board.

● It is not in Moscow's interests beyond a certain point that the board should be swept. According to Soviet analysts, the peace movement in the United States itself will pick up next year to keep pace with the Europeans, but until this development materializes a big rift between Europe and the United States would be a bad thing for the Soviet Union since it would be impossible to get detente under conditions in which the United States and the other Nato powers were isolated — at odds with one another.

● The worst result of all for Moscow would be a Gaullist type of Europe possessing its own defence force and a large array of its own nuclear weapons. That would oblige the Soviet Union to arm itself doubly to meet the separate and possibly combined threats of the American and European forces.

There is some sense of realism about this appreciation and one's conviction that it represents more or less the truth is reinforced by the Soviet response to the Reagan speech. The line taken by Soviet officials in the immediate aftermath was extremely hostile. The initiative was roundly denounced as a propaganda gimmick fiendishly designed for no other purpose than to upstage the Brezhnev visit to Bonn. Within two days (ie after the favourable West European reaction had been observed) the same individuals were talking in a very different vein. Naturally there was a good deal of propaganda in the speech, but then you would expect the American opening to be absurdly unrealistic. The main thing was that the dialogue had been started.

This spiel does not mean that the Russians are anything less than highly sceptical of Washington's real intentions. They evidently fear that the "military-industrial complex" and sinister forces connected with the Committee for the Present Danger will successfully prevent progress even if the President's new look really is more than a sop to the Europeans.

What it does mean, however, is that both super powers are now acutely sensitive to opinion in Western Europe, particularly West Germany, and (even more significant) each is aware that the other is sensitive. This is a classic set-up for the man in the middle. Chancellor Schmidt has instantly realized this fact and is now talking in grandiose terms of his role as an honest broker.

But he is not the only possible intermediary. Britain, France, Italy and the Low Countries are all involved, and since they happen to be gathered at Lancaster House this week in a forum which is desperately keen to find a collective voice, their discussion on this issue can hardly be a waste of time.

The author is Director of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House. He writes here in a personal capacity.

Ronald Butt

A little bending could turn out for the best

Mrs Thatcher is right to resist a U-turn. Nevertheless, there are times in any government's life when a Z bend, somewhat dangerous but by no means impossible to navigate, has to be taken to get round an otherwise impossible corner and to continue in the general direction as planned.

So it is now. Last week I discussed the constraints which will impede the otherwise likely revival of the economy if the Government sticks inflexibly to the technique of economic steering which it has adopted so far without taking account of the change in the terrain. Because of ministers' discovery of the political and social impossibility of cutting a whole range of individual items of expenditure next year, the aggregate will rise substantially above the existing plans.

According to the letter of the law by which the economy is guided in the light of the money supply (as measured by M3) and the size of the public sector borrowing requirement, this rise in government spending and borrowing would imply that either interest rates would be kept up (even when the trend in America is down) or that taxation must be raised in compensation, or both. This, however, could deal a potentially lethal blow to economic revival.

There ought to be no doubt about the validity of the general theory that inflation is caused by governments printing too much money to pay for their own over-spending, and that inflation is at the root of all the other economic evils, including unemployment and poor productivity.

Yet even the most valid theory can be reduced to absurdity. If by rigid obedience to its anti-inflation policy the Government were to damage the chances of economic recovery indefinitely, then it would strike at the object for which its anti-inflation policy exists — which would be ridiculous.

If the Chancellor is now seriously contemplating penalizing productive industry and employment by higher taxation, and through interest rates, to pay for the overspending which ministers cannot politically avoid (and which should have been tackled much earlier in the Government's life), it is surely right that he should think again.

> 'The conquest of inflation will not be a real victory if economic recovery dies in the battle'

Even so (and even allowing for the argument that high interest charges and the cost of unemployment benefit themselves add unacceptably to the PSBR) it would be hard to see how the Government could escape from this dilemma were it not for the fact that the measure by which the "unacceptable" level of its borrowing is assessed is both illogical and unscientific. It is by a re-examination of the PSBR and of investment in the public sector that Mrs Thatcher could find the best means of navigating the present Z bend.

It is no new thing for Conservative MPs critical of the Government's policy to make a distinction between capital and current public spending, arguing for more borrowing to assist investment in useful capital projects. Such investment borrowing, they argue, should not be taken as swelling the PSBR unacceptably. The Chancellor's reply, in essence, has been that the distinction is false, and that borrowed money is borrowed money (and therefore inflationary if printed by the Government at will) whatever it is used for. There is, he would say, no true comparison with borrowed private money, which is lent by banks only on a genuinely commercial risk basis.

There are two flaws in this argument. First, it means that once productive industry has entered the public sector it becomes prey to any government's general political constraints (as well as being too often freed from proper financial discipline) in a way that would not have happened had it remained in the private sector. That is a very good reason against putting productive industry in the public sector, but we have to deal realistically with the situation that exists.

The Government should therefore continue and accelerate the process it has already started of encouraging private money into public industry — provided it is lent on proper commercial conditions, and that the Government is not expected to subsidize its cost.

The second flaw in the argument that all public borrowing is essentially the same lies in the fact that the PSBR is compiled on a ridiculous and incompetent basis which undermines confidence in its validity as an economic indicator. Nobody has made this point more effectively than Mr Tim Renton, Conservative MP for Mid-Sussex, who has emphasized not merely the failure of the PSBR to make a capital/current distinction but has also demonstrated the extent to which what is and what is not included in the PSBR is quite arbitrary.

For one thing, what is and is not included can depend on the very narrow point whether a government has 51 per cent or only 49 per cent of the equity of a partly nationalized industry. If the government had retained 51 per cent of the shares in the recently denationalized British Aerospace, all the *financial requirements* would have been controlled within the PSBR. As the government retained only 48 per cent, all its capital spending is excluded. Yet whether it is within or without the PSBR, Mr Renton pointed out, British Aerospace's demand for long-term finance is primarily funded from the same resources.

By another supreme inconsistency, although the government owns 95 per cent of British Leyland, its bank borrowings are not considered part of the PSBR. Yet British Telecom's borrowing *is* PSBR, though borrowings by its competitor, Cable and Wireless, were (when it was government-owned) apparently not.

Only last week, in the debate on the Nuclear Industry (Finance) Bill, Mr Edward Rowlands, Labour MP for *Merthyr Tydfil*, brought out the "incredible, strange and curious" fact that the borrowing requirement of British Nuclear Fuels Ltd, which amount to £1,000m rising to £1,500m, do not fall on the PSBR. Yet it involves the possibility of Treasury guarantees.

Such questions are in the minds of a wide range of Tory MPs from those on the "dry-ish" side to such archwet critics of the Government's policy as Mr Peter Tapsell, MP for Hornchurch, who last week fired off another of his massive onslaughts against the view that higher government spending would mean higher interest rates and more inflation.

Where Mr Tapsell shares common ground with Conservatives occupying all points of the spectrum of economic opinion is in his advocacy of such ideas as a private consortium to electrify parts of British Rail, with the consortium continuing to own the equipment, leasing it to BR so that it remains outside the PSBR.

The Government should now think what more it can do for productive public investment instead of penalizing it to pay for current spending which ministers are politically frightened of resisting. It could base this exercise on dividing the PSBR into three categories: current spending, covering the government's own services (such as the NHS); transfer payments (pensions and benefits); and capital spending — bearing in mind that, like a prudent householder, it can still be tight on everyday spending while holding a mortgage for useful capital equipment on a proper commercial basis.

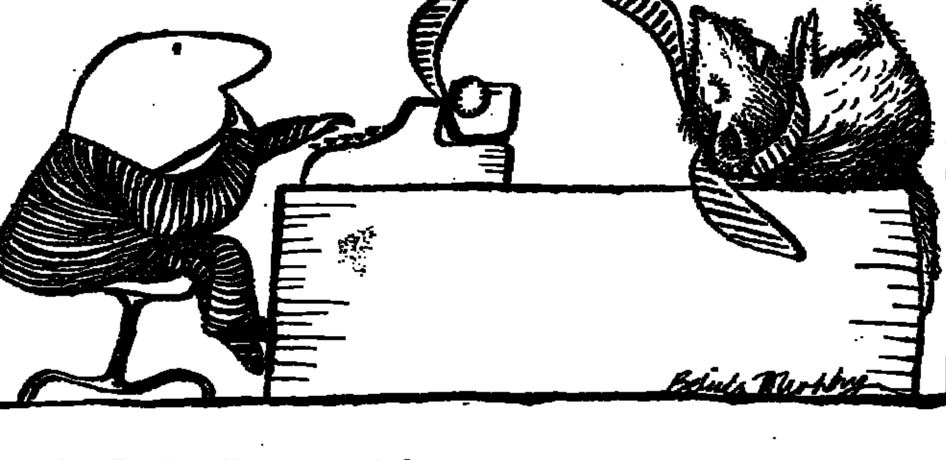
This is quite different from the demand for a little more reflation in government spending all round. It is a question rather of seeing whether the arithmetic with which the policy is being applied is right for the changed circumstances. To keep up interest rates and to put up taxation against productive private industry, and to deny investment (on a proper commercial basis) to public industry — all simply because current non-productive spending is too high — is to prefer the means of policy to the end.

The conquest of inflation will not be a real victory if economic recovery dies in the battle. This has been a government of unequalled courage in the postwar period, willing to pay a high price in popularity for what it has achieved. Now it must be a government of ingenuity and inventiveness as well.

A writing Jonah sheds tears for the dear departed

"It's a dead *Vole*," agreed Richard North, editor of the magazine at its demise. Richard Boston, founder, first editor and company secretary, had just arranged not exactly its winding-sheet but its winding-up. As an observer of its birth and short life, I am one of the mourners. Worse, I feel guilty. Has the curse of Jonathan Sale struck again?

Up in my loft there are ever-increasing piles of publications with two things in common: they contain articles with my by-line above them, and they do not come out any more. Is this just a coincidence? Or can there be some bizarre link?



On the face of it, the death of *Vole* cannot be the fault of a piece of mine in its last ever issue, on motorways (against) and bicycles (for). A periodical which savages the consumer society is not likely to grow rich with advertisements for sports cars and brandy. And however good its blend of canals and the Country Code, of pollution and pollination, it wasn't getting through to the readers. The time cannot be right for environmental magazines; *The Beast*, the ferocious mouthpiece of the animal liberation movement, is also a corpse.

But the *Evening News*, from whom I have earned a few cheques over the years, is also a goner, swallowed by its London rival, *The Standard*. Then there is the case of the small glossy publication entitled *A.M.* Its first issue included a book review by me. It soon ran into its p.m. and finally was benighted after only a handful of issues.

You probably never saw it and, to take the story farther back, you may also have missed *Games & Puzzles*, a monthly guide to dominoes, draughts and diplomacy. It seemed to be covering its overheads until its contents page proclaimed: "An Idiot's Guide to Chess with Jonathan Sale in the title role", since when I have never seen a copy. You must have seen *Nova*, that entertaining, glossy mag for women. A few short items from me, and it stopped being a new star, changing first into a White Dwarf (literally — it adopted a smaller format) and then into a Black Hole in the IPC firmament. RIP.

You certainly missed *Good Times*, a giveaway publication produced for a chain of hotels. After a few thousand words from my typewriter on receptionists, this ran into bad times and then the sand. (Nothing loth, the man behind it came up with another "freebie", this one called *Advantage*. It rapidly turned out to be a complete disadvantage to all concerned and expired — oddly enough, without any help from me.)

Help. That was the name of a glossy, worthy publication for do-gooders which found space for a handful of my articles. Success eluded its editors; it can't have helped that for most of its existence the magazine could never be found on the bookstalls, being available on subscription only. It died, bequeathing to me a piece of mine that never made it into print. This I sent to a splendid Anarchist organ entitled *Idiot International*. How far the title represented its editor's personality, is uncertain, but it became *ex-Idiot International* and returned the (initially accepted) piece in sorrow.

After a while *Seven Days*, a radical weekly, came along. It lasted for over 365 days, long enough to publish the (retyped) article but not long enough, alas, to pay for it.

Sometime during that saga there existed a periodical called *Science in Action*. This soon went out of action, and no wonder, printing as it did a page written by a scientific ignoramus like me. There was once a fortnightly known as *Queen*; I had an association with it; it was taken over and now survives as the second half of the monthly *Harper's-Queen*.

Going back further into the mists of what I like to think of as my career, there was once a Cambridge illustrated paper that traded under the name of *CamCom*. Its contributors included people who are now the leading lights of *The Sunday Times*, *The Observer* and the *Financial Times*. This talent, alas, went for nothing. It was edited by a recent graduate, me. There was twice a paper known as *CamCom*, but the public would not stand for a third issue.

Even *Varsity*, the student rag where I spent my formative years, is with us no longer, save as an echo in the masthead of *Stop Press*, which replaced it.

Given all these steeds shot from beneath me, it is small wonder that I begin to see myself as in some way responsible for the fate of *Vole*. Can I be some sort of Jonah, who should be thrown overboard by the crew of any publication that wishes to stay afloat?

The only point in my favour is that while much of the freelance activity mentioned above was taking place, I had down at the same time my present staff job on a weekly publication. This magazine seems perfectly healthy. But, in order to avoid wiping thousands from the shares overnight, I have been asked not to say which it is.

Jonathan Sale

THE TIMES DIARY

British scientist goes to court against Darwin

Sir Fred Hoyle's close friend and colleague, Dr Chandra Wickramasinghe, professor of astronomy at University College, Cardiff, has agreed to give evidence *against* the evolutionary theories of Charles Darwin in the forthcoming "monkey trial" at Arkansas in America. The scene is thus set for an intriguing courtroom battle between scientists for I am told that Carl Sagan (of television's *Cosmos* fame) and Stephen J. Gould, a Harvard biologist, will also appear in the trial to give evidence for Darwin.

A recent Arkansas law that schools must devote equal time to evolutionary science and the biblical account of creation is being challenged by the American Civil Liberties Union on the grounds that "creation" can scarcely be called a science; that the law establishes a religion in schools contrary to the American constitution; and that it compromises the academic freedom of school staff, forcing them to teach things in which they do not necessarily believe.

The trial starts in Little Rock on December 7 and Dr Wickramasinghe was invited to give evidence by the Arkansas District Attorney. He insists he won't be speaking *for* the creationists — he himself is from Sri Lanka and what you might call a lapsed Buddhist. But he does think that Darwin's explanation for the descent of man by natural selection and the survival of the fittest does not explain the biological world as we know it. It is wrong, he says, for it to be taught in schools as a fact.

He and Sir Fred are now convinced that there is, out in the universe, some "bacteriological material" which introduces diseases and massive mutations into the animal and plant life on earth. This, they claim, explains how "evolution" takes place, by leaps rather than gradually.

He told me yesterday: "There has not been enough time for all the forms of life we know of to have developed from organic juices into men." Further, he and Sir Fred claim to have discovered, near the centre of our galaxy, the presence of the matter which, they think introduces these new life-forms on earth. Their findings were published by colleagues in *Nature* only last week.

And last night, at a meeting in *Cardiff, Hoyle and he heard a* claim from Professor H. D. Pflug, of the University of Geisen in Germany, that he has found evidence for life in meteorites. Wickramasinghe believes this may be another way in which life has developed by fits and starts on earth, through "injections of information" in this way.

He admits he gets a lot of stick for his views but believes he will be proved right.

John Arlott, wine connoisseur, cricket archive and the world's most magical voice-over, has a new house on the small Channel Island of Alderney. From there on Monday he will announce the first three names in what he considers the best cricketing side in the world. The names will be Dennis Lillee, Ian Botham and Learie Constantine.

Arlott has been selecting his best XI, plus 10 reserves, as part of a project in aid of muscular-dystrophy research. The three names unveiled at the champagne reception next week will be the first in a series of "Arlott immortals" who will be depicted as 12in-high porcelain figures in action, created by Andre Loret — Count d'Aquino — a Polish-born ceramic artist now in Jersey.

The set of figures, limited to 150 copies of each figure, will include 11 English, six Australian and four West Indian players. They will be marketed next March after the English team returns from India.

Afterthoughts

Some lurid replies to my request for flamboyant descriptions for hangovers. Gordon Penny, of the *Middle East Economic Digest*, offers "a head like Birkenhead" (probably of Liverpudlian origin); Margaret Fergusson says her father-in-law, Lord Ballantrae, "knew exactly what was meant when he was told in the Solomon Islands, 'tummy belong me gone runabout'. One hopes it eventually came to beel". George Martell Pitcher (a suitable name, if ever there was one) writes: "I once met an Aberdonian on an engineering site in Shetland. It was horribly early in the morning and he was in danger of bleeding to death from the eyeballs. 'Ah've goot err mooth lukkair sookipers 'wullie-willie', he retched in his native fur-lined tongue. It loses something in the translation which, I understand, is: "I have a mouth like a zoo-keeper's wellie, William."

I am also told that, strictly speaking, a hangover first meant to continue to feel drunk on the morning after, rather than to have a headache, which explains why Eddie Condon, the jazz musician, called his condition a "holdover". Ernest Anderson, of London, says Condon had a friend called Clancy who was "the originator of the most efficacious of all hangover cures. The recipe began: "Take the juice of two quarts of whisky . . ."

Spare the children

Twenty years ago today, Distillers withdrew thalidomide from the market. The children deformed by the drug are now grown up and, happily, many are leading full, interesting, normal lives, helped by the relatively good compensation that Distillers were eventually persuaded to pay.

The legal consequences of the thalidomide tragedy are still with us. We have just had a new Contempt of Court Act which, had it been in force, would have allowed *The Sunday Times* to have published virtually all they knew about thalidomide, and might have cut the children's financial anguish by many years.

We still do not have a system of compensating deformed children according to their need, without having to prove negligence on anyone's part. The story of the newspaper's epic struggle to get justice for the children has now been put on video, by a team from the University of Warwick's Audio-Visual Centre and its School of Law. The half-hour video, which can be bought or hired, presents *The Sunday Times* case in the context of the protection of human rights in Europe, via the European Convention.

Police challenge

Two persistent criticisms of police in recent years have been that they needlessly harass youths, especially blacks, and that they "verbal" suspects — in effect, fabricate evidence by putting words in a suspect's mouth. Lord Scarman's report into the causes of the Brixton riots has lent credence to the first charge and bluntly accused Lambeth police of harassment; yesterday a new study of criminal trials offered equally blunt evidence for "verballing". It would be a pity if this report is neglected because Scarman's White Paper has hogged the limelight.

The new evidence — that policemen sometimes manufacture statements to secure convictions in cases where they are convinced of a suspect's guilt but unable to prove it — is published in Oxford University Press's *Courts, Prosecution and Conviction* by Dr Michael McConville and Dr John Baldwin of Birmingham University's Law Faculty. Their book includes two remarkable tape-recorded admissions by detectives that they invented parts of defendants' statements (not always successfully).

Of one case a Birmingham police officer recalled: "It is difficult for me to put this as a police officer. The witnesses were police witnesses; the case rested entirely on police evidence. The defendant's written statement was not very good and well, in these circumstances you use your imagination — verbals and that.

"Well, the officers weren't convincing and their verbals good enough — they didn't have good imaginations. You see, when you know a bloke has done it, and I know [the defendant] was guilty, you sometimes have to resort to verbals.

"It happens all the time and usually it comes off, but here the verbals weren't good enough. When you have been in the force as long as I have, over 20 years, I know, or at least I think I know, when the bloke is guilty . . ."

The academics, after a study of the trials of almost 5,000 defendants in Birmingham and London, conclude that "safeguards available to suspects in police custody are virtually non-existent." Scarman's call for lay visitors to police stations might help here.

For Mountbatten...

Lady Pamela Hicks, Lord Mountbatten's daughter, is very moved by the plan to install stained-glass window as a memorial to her father in St George's Anglican Cathedral in Cape Town. I have good news for her: the noted French stained glass artist, Gabriel Loire, has just arrived in South Africa to discuss details of the window, which will, I hear, have the theme of "Christ stilling the storm on the sea of Galilee". According the dean, the Very Reverend E. L. King, this is appropriate "showing as it will the divine power triumphing over the forces of evil, turmoil and darkness".

Peter Watson



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MRS THATCHER'S NEW POUND

Mrs. Thatcher, the hostess at the European summit in London today and tomorrow, has an opportunity to combine a graceful gesture with an act of economic realism. It is a fusion ideally suited to her, not least since it also requires her resolution to over-ride the pallid cast of Treasury second, third and fourth thoughts. She should announce that Britain has decided to join the European Monetary System. The Chancellor Sir Geoffrey Howe has talked long enough about giving this "serious consideration". This is the moment to do it and at a realistic exchange rate for the pound. Mrs Thatcher can then put Mrs. Shirley Williams and Mr. Roy Jenkins in the shade by launching a new initiative to make the system the basis for world currency stability rather than the regional zone which it currently is. And that is fundamental for any hope for a return to world prosperity.

The EMS is far from perfect; but it is the best system of currency stability we have got. Of the options currently open to the Government, it offers the best chance of providing a long term basis for economic recovery and stability. It also provides important political advantages. The economic arguments have changed significantly in favour of full membership of the system since it was set up. We have all learned the difficulties of controlling the money supply in one country and the damage which attempts to do so can cause. We have seen the chaos in the world monetary system send sterling soaring to unacceptable heights and then drive the Government to raise interest rates in the middle of a recession.

The need for currency stability is twofold. The economy as a whole is damaged when a parity gyrates wildly without relation to inflation or output, as it has done. One minute the exchange rate is an engine of inflation, the next an anchor of depression. Even worse, the process destroys the balance of the economy; the effect in Britain has been precisely the opposite of what almost everyone except the far left agrees is required. The public sector has been further engrossed and the private trading sector diminished. The unjustified rise in real wages brought about by an over-valued currency should have led to a fall in money wages. But public sector workers, in safe jobs and with disproportionately increased wages and salaries, have merely been enabled to buy more imported goods and foreign holidays. While that has gone on, those who work in industry have seen their jobs, and their industries, wiped out. A sixth of manufacturing industry has been destroyed in the past two years, in considerable measure because of the failure to have a policy for the exchange rate.

After too long during which it tried to ignore the exchange rate, the Government now says that it takes it into account in its decisions about interest rates and taxation. It is the typical languid compromise of the trimmer. The present intention seems to be to look at the pound's effective rate which is a measure of its value against all currencies. That approach too, is wrong and in three ways.

First, the target is too vague. The Government does not say what exchange rate it wants the pound to have and Ministers make it clear that other goals, like the money supply, still have priority. Officials love leaving things vague; it allows them to decide as they go along which of the various conflicting objectives the Government sets itself they actually pursue. Industry should not be left in the dark in this way. The exchange rate target ought to be made explicit and ought to be the primary one of Government policy, the one that it really means to meet.

The second defect is that the target is the wrong one in any case. What matters most of all is the position of our industry. Half our trade is with countries which are either full members of the EMS or tie their currencies to it. It is the relationship between the pound and the currencies of these countries which matters above all. That is where we should be focusing our attention.

The third fault in arguing for an informal target on the effective rate is that we have less chance of getting stability on our own than in partnership with the European countries.

The dithering and increasingly inelegant equivocation is not, as everyone knows, the work of Mrs Thatcher herself. It is not her style. She must tell the Treasury she is tired — she ought to be exhausted — of their energy in inventing new excuses as the old ones are successively falsified. She should order a negotiation: the best solution would be to use the specially wide bands allowing six per cent fluctuation as a "running in" period. We could move to the narrower bands at a later date.

Membership of the EMS is a cornerstone but not the whole foundation for economic revival. The whole trading world requires currency stability; competitive deflation and interest-rate wars are blank cheques for speculators, drawn on human misery. Britain can play a leading role in reform but we cannot go on a crusade to persuade the Americans and the Japanese that they should be good neighbours if we are unable to demonstrate that we are living happily, and thriving, within our own family of the European Community.

Mrs Thatcher often feels that five years is too short a time for the kind of long-term economic regeneration she desires. But eternity will not suffice for anyone who is led to believe that a modern nation can prosper on its own.

THE ARAB SUMMIT DEBACLE

It is no good trying to pretend that the collapse of the Arab summit in Fez is anything other than a disappointment. The "Fahd plan", it is true, was (a) not in fact a plan and (b) rejected by a sceptical Israel. Its adoption, therefore, would not have resulted in an immediate outbreak of peace in the Middle East. It would, however, have been an important statement by the Arabs, including the Palestinians, of willingness to make peace. Acceptance of the Fahd formula by the Palestine Liberation Organization could have opened the way to a dialogue between the PLO and the United States, and this in time might have enabled the United States to mediate an Israeli-Palestinian peace settlement — the only settlement that would go to the root of the conflict.

Most experienced Middle East hands were sceptical about the Saudis' chances of getting Prince Fahd's eight points approved by the summit, unless in a form so amended as to deprive them of their significance. What was surprising was that the Saudis themselves were so confident. Their confidence was, it seems, based on several factors. First, neither Syria nor Iraq was in a strong position to contradict them, since Syria's involvement in Lebanon and Iraq's in Iran made both countries dependent on Saudi support.

Secondly, it was the first time that Saudi Arabia herself had taken a major public initiative in inter-Arab affairs, rather than seeking only to bridge differences behind the scenes and provide financial and moral support for agreed positions. The Saudi leaders may have flattered themselves that this very fact would ensure that their initiative was treated with due respect.

But the most important reason was certainly the encouragement they received from Mr Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, who evidently led them to believe that he could deliver the support of his organization. If the PLO had supported the plan it would have been difficult for any Arab leader (except Colonel Gaddafi, who likes to be more royalist than the king) to oppose it publicly. But Mr Arafat, as the Saudis should have known, does not really control the PLO. It is a thoroughly faction-ridden organization, within which several Arab regimes have their supporters, but the crucial leverage is held by Syria. One aspect of the Lebanese war of 1976 was the PLO's attempt to break free of this Syrian tutelage. The Syrians won, and by gaining physical control of most of Lebanon also strengthened their grip on the PLO.

In 1977 President Carter offered to open a dialogue with the PLO if it would accept Security Council Resolution 242, thereby acknowledging "the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of every state in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force". Mr Arafat wanted to accept the offer but the Syrian regime (which had itself accepted Resolution 242 as part of the terms of the 1973 ceasefire) gave the thumbs down: at a meeting of the Palestinian Central Council in Damascus Mr Arafat was overwhelmingly outvoted.

What has just happened is essentially a re-run of that script. The key point of the Fahd plan reproduces the key point of Resolution 242 only more succinctly: "all states in the region should be able to live in peace". Again, Mr Arafat was in favour, but the Syrians were against, and again Mr Arafat was outvoted, only this time it seems the vote was taken in the PLO executive.

The result is a considerable snub for the Saudis, and it can be assumed that they are angry. It would not be surprising if the Syrians find that Saudi payments for the "Arab Deterrent Force" in Lebanon are quietly held up. But it would be more than surprising — it would be entirely out of character — for the Saudis to allow a durable and public quarrel to develop between them and a sizable group of Arab states including the PLO. They value their reputation as champions of the Arab cause too much for that. They could decide quietly to shelve their peace plan. More likely they will make further efforts to get it adopted, but using subtler and more patient diplomacy.

The result is also a snub for the European Community, and for Lord Carrington in particular. But it is worst news of all for the Palestinian people who ever since the birth of Israel have paid dearly for the extremism and intrigue of the Arab radicals who destroyed the Lebanon, nearly destroyed Jordan and will not rest, they say, until they have destroyed Israel. The Arab radicals can frustrate the Saudis, and the Jordanians, and would here like to frustrate the Egyptians but they cannot deliver anything except what they have delivered in the past: bloodshed and futility. One day perhaps the lesson will sink home. In the meantime the Camp David peace process has the field to itself. Lord Carrington's activities were predicated on the assumption that Camp David would not lead to a Palestinian settlement because Israel would never offer enough real autonomy to attract Palestinian participation. Israel now has a chance to prove him wrong again.

Student grants

From Dr Ernest Rudd

Sir, I do not know what changes in students' grants Sir Keith Joseph intends to make; but I am reasonably sure, from my research on students' finances, that the effects predicted by Dr Blackburn (November 17) — fewer students from higher-income families and more from lower-income ones, — are very unlikely. At present two groups of students are virtually unaffected by the amount parents are expected to contribute to their support — those with relatively wealthy parents and those whose parents are sufficiently poor (or successful in fiddling their income tax) for the student to be given a full grant. Those students who fare worst are those mid-way between these points — the children of the better-paidmanual workers and the worse-paid clerical and professional workers.

A change in the scales by which the parental contribution is calculated, or simply a failure to adjust them for inflation, would bear heavily on this middle group, and widen it a little at each end. One that reduced the numbers elegible for a full grant would reduce the numbers of students from the poorer families; but one that reduced or eliminated the minimum amount payable to all students, as it would affect only the well-to-do, would have virtually no effect on the numbers trying to gain university and college places. A reduction in the standard value of the grant, which also would mean parents would pay more, would affect all groups except the relatively wealthy.

It is in the middle-income group, hardest hit by the parental contribution, that the most floating voters are to be found — those people whose support an MP in a marginal seat has to gain if he is to be re-elected. Those Conservative MPs in marginal seats (and which of them are not, now?) ought to be asking Sir Keith Joseph some very searching questions about what he is proposing to do to their floating voters.

Yours faithfully,
ERNEST RUDD,
University of Essex,
Department of Sociology,
Wivenhoe Park,
Colchester.
November 18.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Judges' objection to sentencing proposal

From Lord Justice Lawton

Sir, I was surprised to learn from Lord Longford's speech in the House of Lords on November 24 last that I have been a party with my brethren to thwarting the Home Secretary's proposals for dealing with the grave problem of overcrowding in prisons. I have done nothing of the kind, nor, as far as I know, have any my brethren.

In October last the Lord Chief Justice called a meeting of the lord justices who preside in the *Court of Appeal (Criminal Division)*, and I am the senior one doing so, for the purpose of discussing with us certain proposals which the Home Secretary had made for dealing with overcrowding in the prisons. One was that all fixed sentences should be divided into three equal parts. The offenders would serve the first part; be released under supervision for the second part; and get remission, as now, for the third part.

None of us liked this proposal for the following reason. Most of the overcrowding occurs in local prisons and is caused there by *persistent* offenders, mostly thieves and housebreakers who, because they keep offending, usually get sentences of between 18 months and two years. The Home Secretary's proposal would have meant that such offenders would be let out of prison after between six and eight months.

Our experience of the administration of criminal justice, which in my case goes back over 46 years, led us to think that these recidivists would be likely to start offending again in the same sort of way within days or weeks of being released. This would not have found favour with the public. Custodial sentences may not do much good for those who receive them; but it is often forgotten that whilst persistent offenders are in prison they are not preying on the public.

We all appreciated that in these circumstances there would be a risk that some trial judges might pass longer sentences in order to protect the public. I was, however, *able to remind those* present that when release on parole was introduced in 1967 the then Lord Chief Justice, Lord Parker, had asked the Queen's Bench judges not to take the possibility of the grant of parole into account when fixing the length of sentences. They have not done so.

If Parliament did decide to adopt the Home Secretary's proposal for early release the judges would, of course, accept the new law whatever opinions they might have about its wisdom.

In conclusion I would like to record that many of the senior judges spend part of their spare time addressing meetings of branches of the Magistrates' Association and urging those present to consider passing shorter sentences. Since January 1 last I have addressed seven such meetings.

Yours sincerely,
FREDERICK LAWTON,
Royal Courts of Justice, WC2.
November 26.

EEC budget

From Mr Robert Jackson, MEP for Upper Thames (Conservative)

Sir, The negotiations about the restructuring of the Community budget, which reach a crucial stage at the European Council meeting in London of November 26-27, are a classic instance of what games theory calls "zero-sum bargaining". The issues are so intractable, and so dangerous, because there is a sense in which British, and German, interests can only prevail at the expense of our partners, who are either in net surplus from the budget or benefit from the CAP (common agricultural policy).

Games theory offers at least three ways of attempting to resolve a "zero-sum" conflict. They are worth restating in the context of this negotiation.

1. **Broadening the issues so that all parties can claim some success.** This is, I believe, an essential aspect of the Genscher-Colombo plan for European Union; it is an element in the thinking of those who argue that now is the time for Britain to join the European Monetary System; it also underlies the question whether and when the Community's means of financing new policies should be increased. On each of these issues it must surely be sensible for Britain to display a little less scepticism, and somewhat more understanding of the aspirations of those we wish to make concessions to us.

2. **Dividing up the issues so as to make "trading" easier.** To do this we ourselves have to make some hard choices, especially in resolving the ambiguities in our own approach to CAP reform as it affects British agriculture. Are we serious about a sustained tough farm-prices policy? If so, we must surely be prepared to reach terms on alternative transitional support for socially marginal farming. Are we serious about limiting the Community's obligation to intervene to buy up surpluses? If so, we must surely swallow the pill of relief for small producers. Do we really want to avoid any increase in CAP import controls? If so, we may have to accept a more organized Community food export policy.

3. **"Raising the ante".** This is what the Labour Government did when it posed the threat of British withdrawal from the Community in 1974-75. They got little by this ploy. Mrs Thatcher, however, had better success last year with the implied threat of an interruption in the transfer of resources to the Community.

This time I believe we must eschew tactics of this kind, for two paradoxical reasons. On one hand there is the question of the credibility of the threat to pursue disruption to a point which might put our membership in question. None of our partners believes that Britain will really stake nearly half of our export trade and the central element in our foreign policy, against a net budget contribution amounting to less than 1 per cent of public expenditure.

On the other hand there is the risk. We must succeed in this negotiation; but if we define "success" in unrealistic terms, or if we build up an atmosphere of confrontation, there is surely now a serious risk, with the Opposition in its present mood, that such a bluff might be called by public opinion here at home — with ruinous consequences for Britain.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT JACKSON,
4 Churton Place, SW1.
November 24.

Peril in Amazon basin

From Mr Derek Lovejoy

Sir, Today (November 27), the Foreign Minister of Brazil arrives for consultation with the Foreign Secretary, Lord Carrington. No doubt trade will take a prominent part in their discussions.

There is at present, great concern at worldwide environmental deterioration and particularly the catastrophic environmental destruction which is taking place in Brazil. Some of the last great reserves of the Earth's forests are being destroyed at such a rate that they will be exhausted within 50 years. The very fragile soil of the Amazon basin will become a desert with the consequent effect on the world's climate.

The Brazilian Government has stated that remedial measures are being taken, but these are so minor as to be relatively ineffective. Could Lord Carrington impress upon the Brazilian Government this international concern and attempt to ensure that any increase in British trade which has environmental impact does not escalate the situation? (Perhaps this could be applied to all of her Majesty's Government's policy where industrial operations will cause severe environmental impact.)

Further, there have been reports that the British Government is reducing its international commitment and presence in Antarctica and that Brazil is becoming increasingly interested in this continent because of the enormous mineral resources, with the result that Brazil may partially fill the vacuum left by the British.

If what is happening in Brazil is allowed to happen in Antarctica, this will see the destruction of one of the Earth's last great natural landscapes. HMG must ensure that before it reduces its responsibilities or commitments, there must be adequate environmental safeguards.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK LOVEJOY,
First Vice-President,
International Federation of Landscape Architects,
Forest Dene,
Worth, Crawley,
West Sussex.

Paisley and Ulster

From Dr Kenneth Lane

Sir, I find the letter from Professor Yorick Wilks (November 24) difficult to understand.

The universal condemnation of the Reverend Ian Paisley is due to the fact that he proclaims his loyalty to the Crown and Government of the United Kingdom and at the same time flouts its determined efforts to maintain law and order in Ulster. His unwarranted attacks on the Government are louder and more ferocious than his condemnation of the IRA. Even the dead of English, Scottish and Welsh regiments fail to silence him.

He resembles the animal who bites the hand that restrains it from suicide.

Most British people sympathize profoundly with the Ulster loyalists, recognize their long and bravely accepted sufferings at the hands of the terrorists, and understand their mistrust of certain Catholic families who harbour and encourage the IRA. If Mr Paisley used his powerful voice to encourage his followers to assist the security forces by careful intelligence work he would be as popular in Britain as he now is unpopular.

I found the sneer in Professor Wilks's last paragraph offensive. Am I alone in finding no historical justification for the famous French phrase?

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH LANE,
Woodland Cottage,
Gadbridge Lane,
Ewhurst, Surrey.
November 24.

Rolling start

From Mr J. D. Goodwin

Sir, The report from New York (November 21) on the recent Rolling Stones concerts betrays your correspondent's failing memory of the group's famous Oxford performance.

If he is right in his suggestion that this was "the day the counter-culture was actually born" it should be recorded that the occasion was the Magdalen College Commemoration Ball on June 22, 1964, although anyone present that evening might be forgiven for having failed to recognise it as a turning point in contemporary social history.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GOODWIN,
10 Egerton Terrace, SW3.
November 23.

Significance of Vickers sentence

From Mr N. L. Hillier

Sir, I am surprised that Mr Sieghart (November 24) should be confused as to the judge's reasons for making the recommendation in respect of Mr Vickers's sentence.

It is a sound and well-established principle of sentencing policy in English courts that where an offence is facilitated by the offender's holding a position of trust the offence is regarded as particularly grave.

One must be entitled to expect that a bank clerk will not filch from one's account, a policeman not tender false evidence or a solicitor embezzle his client's funds precisely because to do so is made easier by the trust which must of necessity be placed in these persons.

Mr Vickers' offence was doubly odious in that he abused both his position as a doctor and that of husband by taking advantage of his victim's faith in him in order to further his own miserable ambitions.

Yours faithfully,
N. L. HILLIER,
Richard Arnold and Son,
7/9 Akti Miaouli,
Piraeus, Greece.

From the Reverend G. R. Curry

Sir, Mr Sieghart puts his finger on a crucial issue in his letter published today (November 24). Yet the direction he appears to want to go in is at the least unsettling and at the worst horrifying. He seems to be advocating the humanitarian theory of punishment which sees punishment as having only a three-fold aim: the reformation of the criminal; the protection of the public; and as a deterrent to potential lawbreakers.

Unfortunately this view has a serious flaw, so serious that in effect it leads to a devaluing of humanity, as the late C. S. Lewis so cogently argues in his paper, *The Abolition of Man.* It fails to see punishment as punishment. Whilst the three things mentioned above are important they can only have real value when we add this fourth, and more important, dimension.

If we wish to live in a just and humane society then this concept of retribution must not be excluded. This is not to advocate vindictiveness, as Mr Sieghart implies, but rather true "old-fashioned" justice. And, if justice is to be seen to be done, then every criminal should (at the time of sentencing at least) understand that he is getting that which he deserves.

You see, Sir, the real question we should be asking is: "What is the appropriate punishment for murder?" Is it life imprisonment or something else?

Yours sincerely,
GEORGE R. CURRY,
The Vicarage,
Churt,
Farnham, Surrey.
November 24.

From Mr Nicky Bird

Sir, Paul Sieghart's claim (November 24) that the surgeon who murdered his wife should be treated leniently as he has no more wives to murder, reminds me of the youth who chopped up his parents and then asked for clemency because he was an orphan.

Yours faithfully,
NICKY BIRD,
3 Randolph Mews, W9.

From Mr R. A. Howard,

Sir, Why does Mr Paul Sieghart think that the punishment should not fit the crime? Not many practising surgeons murder their wives and so Dr Vickers should be treated leniently. Not many practising solititors murder the Lord Chancellor and the Master of the Rolls — indeed, not any — and so presumably if I were to do so Mr Sieghart would recommend that my punishment should be even less than that he would award Dr Vickers.

The stability of any society which refuses to recognise that retribution is an essential ingredient in punishment is undermined.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN A. HOWARD,
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1.

From Mr Michael De-la-Noy

Sir, Mr Paul Sieghart might have added to his excellent letter questioning the wisdom of condemning us to keep Mr Paul Vickers in prison for 17 years the fact that it will cost us in excess of £100,000.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL DE-LA-NOY,
54 Gondar Gardens, NW6.

Alliance fares policy

From Mr Michael Steed

Sir, Your report "Liberals and SDP split over GLC fares" (*The Times*, November 18) contrasted the considered views of the Liberal Party with a statement by one ex-Labour Social Democrat, Mr Jim Daly. I do not know whether, when their party has had time to consider its transport policy, Social Democrats will come to share the Liberal Party's emphasis on the need to maintain cheap public transport in large cities. But on the other issue at stake, the threat that Lord Denning's judgment makes to elected local government, surely the SDP has already declared itself for the Liberal position?

When they launched the party, the Social Democratic leaders included as one of their 12 tasks "*Decentralisation:* Decisions should more often be made at local level". In their conference paper on "Local Government and Finance" Mr Tyrrell Burgess stated that that the SDP's object should be "to strengthen the independence and responsibility of local government".

If these principles mean what they say, Social Democrats, along with Liberals, should be standing by the right of the Greater London Council to determine a policy for London transport fares, accountable to the electorate.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL STEED,
Wood Cottage,
Ewood Lane,
Todmorden,
Lancashire.
November 21.

Representation

From Mrs Lavender Westwood

Sir, As a small trader in London I find myself in the situation of having to pay excessive taxation without representation (shop money?).

I suggest that for the hearing of Mr Livingstone's rate appeal it would be in keeping to revive the Star Chamber.

Yours faithfully,
LAVENDER WESTWOOD,
Boadicea,
42 Beauchamp Place, SW3.
November 23.

Wages of the young

From Mr David Forrest

Sir, Mr Chris Kaufman claims (Business News, November 19) that the current high rate of youth unemployment cannot be attributed to the relative wages of the young being too high. He quotes as evidence the fact that the ratio of youth to adult wages has been almost constant since 1973. What he ignores is that the period since 1973 has seen a sharp rise in the number of teenagers, as the largest cohorts of the baby boom have reached working age.

Standard economic theory predicts that an increased supply of a particular type of labour would only be absorbed into employment if its relative price were to fall. The relative price of youth labour has not been allowed to fall because of union and wages-council pressure.

Perhaps this pressure explains in part why youth unemployment is so high. Certainly the argument requires further research rather than mere dismissal.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID FORREST,
Department of Economics,
University of Manchester,
Manchester.

Festival Hall box

From Mr Michael Kaye

Sir, Like Mr. Hunter (November 24) we, too, would like to see the ceremonial box in the Royal Festival Hall used as often as possible, and on those occasions when it is not required by royalty or by members of the Greater London Council for official visitors, promoters of concerts can apply for its use by sponsors and other relevant people. The box must, however, be used appropriately and it must be held available to the council until a reasonable time before each concert for its prime purpose.

There is, of course, no way in which members of the council or others can be compelled to hear the artists Mr Hunter represents, but the council is examining proposals for widening the availability of the ceremonial box so that it will be in use more often in future.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
MICHAEL KAYE,
General Administrator,
South Bank Concert Halls, SE1.

SDP and education

From Professor Lord Beloff, FBA

Sir, I do not know whether Mr Michael McCrum (feature November 18) has read Mrs Shirley Williams's article in *The Universe* to which Dr John Rae (November 21) refers; as a fastidious scholar he may find her turgid prose too much to take. However, I *have* read it and I can assure him and you that it in no way corresponds to the analysis proffered by Dr Rae.

Mrs Williams reveals herself in this article, as in everything she says and writes, hostile to independent education at any level. The only shift in her position has been made to take into account the obstacles placed by the European Convention of Human Rights in the way of the outright prohibition of independent education that is Labour Party policy. Instead of execution, we are to have the death of a thousand cuts.

The issue is one of principle not of procedure. Either you believe, as *does* Mr McCrum and as a headmaster of Westminster School *ought to*, that independent education confers great benefits not only on the children for whom it caters but on the whole educational system, independent and maintained, or you believe as do Mrs Williams and other socialists that it is somehow a regrettable and "socially devisive" anomaly. It is possible honestly to take either view; it is not acceptable to try to straddle between them.

Yours truly,
BELOFF,
House of Lords.
November 21.

Game for anything?

From Mr A. P. Fawcett

Sir, Board games currently played within my own household embrace the following subjects: murder, spying, betting on racehorses, art forgery, and property speculation. All are in thoroughly bad taste. Should they be withdrawn from general sale?

Yours faithfully,
AUSTIN FAWCETT,
71 Tom Lane,
Sheffield.
November 24.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

November 26: His Excellency Monsieur Sadok Bouzayen was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Tunisian Republic to the Court of St James's

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Monsieur Mouldi Kefi (Counsellor), Monsieur Adel Smaoui (First Secretary), Monsieur Abderrahmane Bahri (Third Secretary), Monsieur Belhassen ben Larbe (Attache) a Monsieur Azouz Rafrafi (Attache).

Adame Bouzayen had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir John Graham (Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty, was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr W. N. Hillier-Fry (British High Commissioner to the Republic of Uganda) had the honour of being received by The Queen.

The Reverend Anthony Harbottle had the honour of being received by Her Majesty and took leave upon relinquishing his appointment as Chaplain of the Royal Chapel, Windsor Great Park.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh gave a luncheon party at Buckingham Palace for those attending the Meeting of he European Council in London.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were present.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Chairman of the National Federation of Housing Associations Working Party on Rural Housing, this morning chaired a Conference on Rural Housing at the Royal Society of Arts, John Adam Street, Adelphi, WC2.

Captain Jeremy Wills was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, Honorary Fellow of the Zoological Society of London, this afternoon attended the Society's Symposium on Animal Disease at Regent's Park, NW1.

The Duke of Edinburgh was present this evening at a dinner given by the Institute of Economic Affairs at 2, Lord North Street, SW1, and was received by the General Director of the Institute (the Lord Harris of High Cross).

Mr Richard Davies was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, Honorary Air Commodore, Royal Air Force Brawdy, this morning at Buckingham Palace received Flight Lieutenant S. J. Wood.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Philips, this afternoon opened and toured the Gunnar Nilsson Radiotherapy Unit at Charing Cross Hospital.

Her Royal Highness was received upon arrival by the Mayor of Hammersmith and Fulham (Councillor Stuart Leishman) and the Secretary of State for Social Services (the Right Hon Norman Fowler, M.P.)

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Chancellor, this evening attended Foundation Day at the University of London, where Her Royal Highness was received by the Bice-Chancellor (Professor Randolph Quirk).

Mrs Malcolm Innes and Major Nicholas Lawson were in attendance.

By command of The Queen, the Lord Kyell (Lord in Waiting) was present at Royal Air Force Northolt this morning upon the arrival of The President of the French Republic and welcomed The President on behalf of Her Majesty.

CLARENCE HOUSE

November 26: General Daryatmo, Speaker of the Indonesian House of Representatives, today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, as President, accompanied by The Prince of Wales, this afternoon visited the Royal College of Music.

Her Majesty conferred the degree of Honorary Doctor of Music on His Royal Highness, and subsequently presented Certificates to Fellows and Awards to the Senior Students.

The Lady Angela Oswald, Captain Alastair Aird and the Hon Edward Adeane were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE:

November 26: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, as President of Barnardo's, this afternoon attended a Luncheon at the Savoy Hotel and presented the 1981 Champion Children of the Year Awards.

Mrs Angus Blair was in attendance.

November 26: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Air Chief Commandant, Women's Royal Air Force, was present at a Reception at Royal Air Force Brampton, Cambridgeshire, this afternoon.

Miss Jane Egerton Warburton was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester, President, Cancer Research Campaign, this morning opened The Association of Medical Research Charities Exhibition at Fortress House, Savill Row, London. In the evening His Royal Highness was present at The Swan Feast of The Worshipful Company of Vintners at Vintners' Hall, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Group Captain Andrew Willan will take place at 2.15 pm on Monday, December, 14 in Salisbury Cathedral.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. N. Bartle-Tubbs and Miss A. M. Kerry

The engagement is announced between Colin Neal Bartle-Tubbs, younger son of Mr and Mrs Antony Tubbs, of Pease Pottage, Sussex, and Alison Margaret, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Kerry, of Bramhope, Leeds.

Mr A. L. C. Bell and Miss Y. S. Robinson

The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Mr and Mrs L. C. Bell, of Longstanton, Cambridgeshire, and Yvonne, only daughter of Mr J. E. Robinson, of Pheasant Field, Burton, South Wirral, and Mrs B. H. Robinson, of Eastham, Cheshire.

Mr D. A. Winfield and Miss E. A. Parkins

The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr and Mrs A. Winfield, of New Addington, Croydon, and Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs I. C. Parkins, of Peakirk, Peterborough.

Mr P. M. Hugill and Miss V. A. Mulloy

The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr G. T. Hugill, of Son Servera, Majorca, and Mrs L. J. Groenendijk, of Laren, Holland, and Victoria, elder daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Michael Mulloy, of The Old Vicarage, Tonge, Kent.

Mr M. V. G. Masefield and Miss L. R. Instone

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs V. H. Masefield, of Lodsworth, Sussex and Lucinda, daughter of Mr F. A. Instone, of Tunbridge Wells, and Mrs F. A. Instone, of London, SW6.

Mr W. M. Colacicchi and Miss C. E. V. Clutterbuck

The engagement is announced between William, younger son of the late Mr Paul Colacicchi and of Mrs Mary Colacicchi, of 9 St Dionis Road, London, SW6, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Clutterbuck, of The Manor, Weston Sub Edge, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.

Mr T. R. Wade and Miss M. V. Goschen

The engagement is announced between Tim, only son of Mr and Mrs Robin Wade, of 11 Mount Ararat Road, Richmond, Surrey, and Mariora, second daughter of the late Mr David Goschen and of Mrs Angela Goschen, of 3 Moore Flats, Gilbert Street, London W.1.

Captain N. T. R. Steevenson and Miss C. N. E. Duffie

The engagement is announced between Rory Steevenson, The Royal Hampshire Regiment, third son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs R. V. C. Steevenson, of Mary Tavey, Tavistock, Devon, and Catherine, only daughter of Major and Mrs M. L. A. Duffie, of Fifield Avon, Enford, Pewsey, Wiltshire.

Dr N. B. Solomons and Miss C. F. W. Stewart

The engagement is announced between Neil, son of Dr and Mrs Archie Solomons, of Port Elizabeth, South Africa, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs Keith Stewart, of 10 Foster Road, London, W4.

Mr M. J. Dupree and Miss A. C. Telfer-Smollett

The engagement is announced between Michael, son of the late John Dupree and Mrs Roger Thornycroft, of Home Farm, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Telfer-Smollett, of 272, Earls Court Road, London, SW5.

Mr P. R. Allen and Miss R. G. Barton

The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs R. Allen, of Westcliff-on-Sea, and Rosamund, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. F. Barton, of Cambridge.

Mr J. R. H. Barnard and Miss G. C. Mooney

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, younger son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Barnard, of Aldenham School, Hertfordshire, and Gillian, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs James Mooney, of Pwllheli, Gwynedd.

25 Years Ago

From The Times of Monday November 26 1956

New York, Nov 25: For the third time this month the United Nations has called upon Britain, France, and Israel to withdraw their forces from Egypt. Yesterday's call was couched in more peremptory terms than the previous ones. By the overwhelming majority of 63 votes in favour with five against and 10 abstentions the General Assembly noted "with regret" that two-thirds of the French forces remain, that all UK forces remain, and that no Israel forces had been withdrawn behind the armistice line "although a considerable time had elapsed since the adoption of its relevant resolution". The circumstances in which this decision was taken were such as to make it clear that the Afro-Asian group, headed in this instance by India, had the active backing of the United States.

Satellites and TV's future

By Kenneth Gosling

The BBC's belief that satellites offered a growth area for their programme-makers was correct; but it was less certain that they could help them with their financial problems, Mr Colin Shaw, the Independent Broadcasting Authority's director of television, said yesterday.

He told a conference in Vienna on satellite broadcasting that there were other reasons, shared with the IBA, for urging upon the BBC "on the IBA, a measure of caution".

His main concern was with the matter of scale or the question of the scope of responsibilities.

"I am not greatly in favour of creating new institutions with new bureaucracies. But equally, I am not much in favour of so distorting existing institutions in order to avoid making new ones that their original purposes are lost or seriously affected."

Mr Shaw suggested that it might be in the national interest to create a fresh institution to serve fresh goals

He said he feared the mass-audience pressures of satellites. "I wait to be convinced that, at a time when many people are showing signs of wishing to draw back from the mass, from the large-scale, of seeking the local and the domestic in preference to the international and grandiose, satellites can sufficiently narrow their range to reflect at least this element in the contemporary mood".

There were other tasks to face, such as Channel Four and breakfast television, without there being competition too soon from new sources of programming.

Lecture

British Nutrition Foundation

The annual lecture of the British Nutrition Foundation was delivered yesterday by Professor Sir John Butterfield, Cambridge University at the Royal College of Physicians. A vote of thanks was proposed by Professor Albert Neuberger and Dr Russell Allen, chairman, presided.

Luncheons

HM Government

The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs was host yesterday at a dinner given at Admiralty House on the occasion of the European Council.

HM Government

The Lord Privy Seal, was host yesterday at a luncheon given at the Hyde Park Hotel in honour of Mr Roh Tae Woo, Minister of State for National Security and Foreign Affairs of Korea.

HM Government

The Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Minister for Overseas Development was host yesterday at a luncheon given at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of the Speaker of the Indonesian House of Representatives, General Daryatmo.

British Nutrition Foundation

The annual lucheon of the British Nutrition Foundation was held yesterday at the Royal College of Physicians. the guest of honour was Sir Monty Finniston. Dr Russell Allen, chairman of the council, presided.

Dinners

Anglo-German Association

Sir Oliver and Lady Wright and Baron and Baroness Manfred von Schroeder were the guests of honour at the annual dinner and ball of the Anglo-German Association held at the Cafe Royal yesterday. Sir Frank Roberts, president of the association, and Lady Roberts received the guests. Others present included:

[illegible]

Caledonian Club

The annual St Andrew's Day dinner was held at the Caledonian Club last night. The Earl of Selkirk, QC, president, was in the chair and Mr Ian MacGregor was the principal guest.

Prime Minister

The Prime Minister was host at a dinner held at 10 Downing Street yesterday on the occasion of the meeting of the European Council. The guests were: Mr Francois Mitterrand, [illegible]

Service dinners

The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers

The annual dinner of the 9/12th branch of the Royal Fusiliers Association was held last night at Fusilier House, Balham. Major-General D. S. Appleby presided. The principal guests included:

The Deputy Lieutenant of Wandsworth, Major-General D M Woodford, Deputy Colonel (Lancashire), Brigadier B C Webster, Deputy Colonel (City of London), Colonel W W Eiches, regimental secretary, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, and Major C A Bewley.

RAF Rudloe Manor

Officers of RAF Rudloe Manor held a dinner night yesterday. Squadron-leader W. F. Floydd presided and Commander M. A. Taylor, Metropolitan Police, was the guest of honour.

Franco-British Society

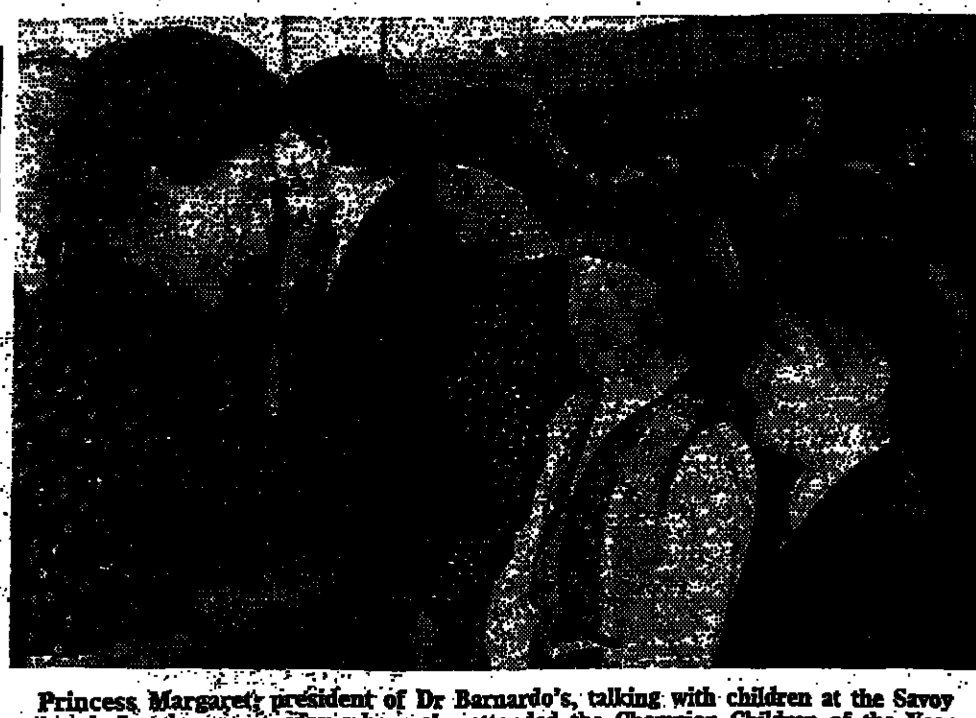
A piano recital was given by M Vlado Perlemuter on Wednesday at the French Ambassador's residence. The French Ambassador and Mme Emmanuel de Margerie and the Marquess of Lansdowne received the guests. Among those present were:

Lord Duncan-Sandys, CH, and Lady Duncan-Sandys, Lord and Lady Strabolgi, the Hon Sir Peter and Lady Vanneck, Sir Lennox and Lady Berkeley, Sir Peter Pears, Sir Edward and Lady Tomkins, Mrs Edward Norman-Butler, Mr and Mrs James Hadley, Baron and Baronne de Juniac, Miss B Allison The French Consul General and Mme Roux and M Lanmonnier (deputy Chief of Protocol to the French President).

Reunion

Royal College of Defence Studies

The annual reunion of the Royal College of Defence Studies was held yesterday evening at Seaford House. The Commandant, Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Freer, presided.



Princess Margaret, president of Dr Barnardo's, talking with children at the Savoy hotel, London, yesterday where she attended the Champion Children of the Year lunch and presented awards.

The need for vision as politics looks to the GNP

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Bishop of Birmingham, Dr Hugh Montefiore, was one of eight bishops who signed a letter published in *The Times* last July. On reflection, he found that the letter was addressed as much to himself as to the great British *Times*-reading public, so he has tried to do what the letter called upon others to do.

The result is his first "pastoral letter", reponding to the bishops' point appeal in *The Times* that "we ought to cooperate to provide a positive vison of society at which we ought to aim, which will fire the imagination of the young". Or, as he said yesterday: "There is no vision in politics any more; it is all about the Gross National Product".

Dr Montefiore's vision, "without which the people will perish", is of a society where brotherhood transcends class, the poor and weak are protected, where education is for life as well as for work, and where work is an activity in which people participate as well as engage.

On the last point, Dr Montefiore may well have the distinction of being the first English bishop of whatever persuasion to have incorporated Pope John Paul II's recent encyclical *Laboren Exercens* into his teaching. He draws on sources in all directions, and popes figure repeatedly in his 54 references. But "no monopoly of truth is claimed (for this pastoral letter), and Christians may in good faith dissent from some of its conclusions.

"If our people can believe in the goals of our society and can again have real hope for the future of mankind," Dr Montefiore writes, "they can begin to recover their own morale and self-respect as human beings, and as citizens of this land.

If people believe that they can entertain noble aims, truly within their grasp, they will find it easier to generate a new spirit "where all will work for each, and each will work for all". In a society which is not exclusively Christian, but pluralist, "we must generate common values and common ideals which make possible a new national spirit".

Dr Montefiore is unapologetic about being a Churchman intruding into the politician's territory, and explains that "some forms of society are more conducive to the realization of God's Kingdom than others. We must be able to give our prayer 'Thy Kingdom come' some real content. The Kingdom of God involves a society so ordered that God's laws can be obeyed, and where people treat their fellows as brothers and sisters."

His pastoral letter is not intended as a party manifesto, nor is it the Church's last word. "Someone had to start somewhere," he said. In advance of publication about 1,500 copies have already been ordered, and Dr Montefiore was feeling bouyant about the whole thing.

The Kingdom of God in our Land, a pastoral letter from the Bishop of Birmingham (Bishop's Croft, Old Church Road, Birmingham B17; 20p, post free).

Memorial services

Mr P Wilson

A memorial service for Mr Peter Wilson was held yesterday at St Bride's, Fleet Street. Preb Dewi Morgan officiated and Mr Julian Wilson (son) read the lesson. Lord Cudlipp gave an address and Mr Anthony Bate read the Harrow School Song. Among those present were:

Mrs Wilson (widow), Mrs Julian Wilson (daughter-in-law), Mr and Mrs Rodney Wilson (son and daughter-in-law), Thomas Wilson (grandson), Mr and Mrs Raymond Thompson (stepson and stepdaughter-in-law).

Mr Henry Cooper, Mrs Anthony Bate, Mrs J L Manning, Mr Sam Burns, Mr Peter Chapman, Mr and Mrs Clifford Webb, Mr Paddy Byrne, Mr Lance Tingay (president, Lawn Tennis Writers' Association) and Mrs Tingay, Mr Joe Coral, Mr Noel Whitcomb, Mr Roy Ullyett, Mr John Young, Mr Geoffrey Hutton (chairman, Tug of War International Federation), Mr Michael Christiansen, Mr J Horrocks, Mr Emlyn Jones (Sports Council), Mr and Mrs John Disley, Mr Nevill Hooper, Mr Jack Coady (British Army Newspaper Unit) with Mr Tom Pike, Mr Bill Dunn and Mr David Thorogood, Mr Charles Ley, Mr John Ley, Mr Freddy Hill, Mr Bill Martin, Mr Steve Fagan, Mr Freddy Read, Mrs J Leitch, Mr John King, Mr Robert Findlay, Mr P Garrow, Mr David Talbot, Mrs Martin Paull, Mr Roderick Bloomfield, Mr Tim Heald, Mrs W Hutchinson, Mr Ian Hutchinson, Mr Arthur Coles and Mr David Redman.

Lady Cudlipp, Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, QC, Lord Ardwick, Mr Anthony Miles (chairman, Mirror Group of Newspapers) and Mrs Miles, With Mr Michael Molloy (editor Daily Mirror) and Mrs Molloy, Mr Robert Edwards (Editor Sunday Mirror), Mr Geoffrey Pinnington (editor, Sunday People), Mr P Thompson, Mr Don Canadine-Bate, Mr Tony Smith, Mr Terence Lancaster, Mr Ronald Bedford, Mr Ian Watson, Mr Martin Keates, Mr Dan Ferrari, Mr Bill Hagerty, Mrs Marjorie Proops, Mr Neil Bentley, Mr and Mrs J Stevenson, Mr and Mrs Frank McGhee, Mr Tony Cornell, Mr John Currie, Mr Nigel Clarke, Mr David Phillips, Mr Tony Boram, Mr M Honey, Mr G Goodman and Miss C Kelly, Mr Christopher Brasher (The Observer) and Mrs Brasher, Mr Laurie Pignon (Daily Mail) and Mrs Pignon, Mr Frank Butler (News of the World), Mr Morris Benett and Mr S Hulls (Daily Express), Mr Alan Hoby (Sunday Express), Mr Patrick Collis and Mr Neil Allen (The Standard), Mr F C McDermott (Reuters), Mr Bill Martin (Press Association), Mr Cliff Morgan (BBC), Mr And Mrs Harry Carpenter, Mr Reg Gutteridge (ITV), Mr Michael Grade (London Weekend Television), Mr Colin Hart (The Sun, chairman, Boxing Writers' Club).

Lord Goronwy-Roberts

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Lord Goronwy-Roberts was held yesterday at St Margaret's, Westminster. Canon John Baker officiated. The Speaker and the Hon Ann Goronwy-Roberts (daughter) read the lessons and Mr James Callaghan, MP, gave an address. Lord Home of the Hirsel was represented by Lord Skelmersdale, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs by Lord Trefgarne and the Leader of the Labour Party by Sir Tom McCaffrey. Others present included:

Lady Goronwy-Roberts (widow), Mr D. L. Walters (brother-in-law), Mr Iolo Walters, Mrs E. Llewelyn-Jones, Dr M. Jellnok, Miss D. Bartonova, Mr and Mrs W. J Jones, Miss E. Lewis-Jones, Mr. G. Rhys-Williams, Mrs R. Harrison-Jones.

The Marquess of Aberdeen and Temair, the Earl and Countess of Listowel, Viscountess Montgomery of Alamein, Lord Brockway, Lord Noel-Baker, Baroness Young (Leader of the House of Lords), Lord Peart (Leader of the Opposition, House of Lords), Baroness Llewelyn-Davies of Hastoe (Opposition Chief Whip, House of Lords), Baroness Elliot of Harwood, Lord Greenway, Lady Greenway, Lord Blease, Lord Morris, Lady Carrington, Lord Stewart of Fulham, CH, and Baroness Stewart of Alvechurch, Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos, CH, Lord Drumalbyn, Lord Kirkhill, Baroness Birk, Lord Hankey, Lord Brooks of Tremorfa, Lord Hughes, Lord Ponsonby of Shulbrede, Lord Chelwood, Lord Ritchie-Calder, Baroness Trumpington, Lord Shackleton, Lord Elton, Lord Maelor, Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge, Baroness Vickers, Lord and Lady Strabolgi, Lord Stamp (Inter-Parliamentary Union, British Group), Lord and Lady Inglewood, Lord Evans of Hungershall, Baroness David, Lord Underhill, Lord Aberdare, Lord Boyd-Carpenter, Lord Margadale, Lord Shepherd, Lord and Lady Brimelow, Baroness Ewart-Biggs, Lord and Lady Gore-Booth, Lord Sandys, Lord Hill of Luton, Lord Gainford, Lord Rhodes, Lord Elwyn-Jones, CH, and Lady Elwyn-Jones, Lord John-Mackie, Lord Boston of Faversham, Baroness White, Lord Bishopston, Lord Bruce of Donington, Lord Segal, Lord Maybray-King, Lord Holderness, Lord Wells-Pestell, Lord Mishcon, Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, QC, and Lady Lloyd, Lord Murton of Lindisfarne, Lord Ailmuree, Dr David Owen, MP, Mr Neil Marten, MP, Mr Peter Thomas, QC, MP, Mr Merlyn Rees, MP, Mr David Ennals, MP, Mr John Peyton, MP, Mr Fred Mulley, MP, and Mrs Mulley, Mr Denzil Davies, MP, Mr John Morris, MP, the Hon Diana Makgill, Sir Antony and Lady Acland.

Sir Michael Palliser (representing the Diplomatic Service), Sir Nigel Fisher, MP, Sir Patrick Wall, MP, Sir Eric Norris, Sir William Van Straubenzee, MP, Sir Robin Vanderfelt (secretary-general, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association), Sir John Tilney, Sir Idris Foster, Sir Noel Short, Sir William and Lady Harpham, Sir David Lidderdale, Sir Peter Henderson, Sir Charles Fletcher-Cooke, QC, MP, Mrs James Callaghan, the Hongkong Commissioner in London, the Mayor and Mayoress of Arfon, Gwynedd, the Town Clerk of Caernarvon, Mrs Joel Hurstfield, Mr John Edmonds, Mr and Mrs Norman Reddaway, Mr John Cloake, Mr Dafydd Wigley, MP, Mr Alan Donald, Mr Tristan Garel-Jones, MP, Mr Terry Davis, MP, Mr Wyn Roberts, MP, Mr Michael Roberts, MP, Mr Ben Ford, MP, The Ven C Witton-Davies, Mr Donald Coleman, MP, Mr and Mrs G T Griffith, Mr Alwyn Roberts, Mr Christopher Mallaby, Mr David Crouch, MP, Mr Donald Anderson, MP, Dr J Howlett, Mr R M Russell, Dr David Menhennet (librarian, House of Commons), Mr Peter Blaker, MP, Mr William Davies (president, Welsh Council of the United Nations Association), Mrs Hilary Edwards (United Nations Association Women's Advisory Council), Mr T Idwal Owen, Mrs A Cleland (Hongkong Association), Mr L Murray (Liverpool Daily Post), Mr Geraint Stanley Jones (BBC Wales), Miss Mary Giles (Department of Education and Science), Mr W R Davies (director, Welsh Centre for International Affairs) and Mr Robert Killicorn (National Union of Public Employees).

Prince pays £15,000 for Fendi album

By Geraldeine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The Prince of Lichtenstein joined the ranks of Christie's bidders yesterday to purchace for £15,400 (estimate £5,000-£8,000) an album of drawings and watercolours by Peter Fendi, a renowned Viennese nineteenth-century artist.

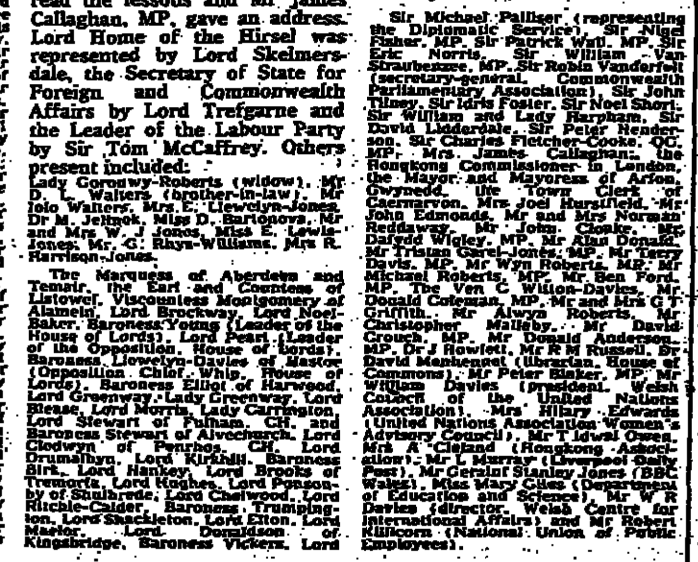
A genre, portrait and occasional landscape painter, Fendi was patronised by the Imperial court and aristocracy in the early years of the century; he has been described as an Austrian Bonnington. Among his keenest patrons was the then Prince of Lichtenstein. The Lichtenstein family still own many Fendi oils and watercolours — to which the present prince added yesterday.

Both Christie's and Sotheby's were holding sales of nineteenth century drawings yesterday and in both case 19 per cent was left unsold. The early period, notably the 1830s, proved popular in both sales. A Rudolf von Alt watercolour of Prague Cathedral of 1839 made £4,620 (estimate £2,000-£2,200) to a Viennese dealer and a Giuseppe Canella gouache of "La Villette, Paris" of 1830 made £4,400 (estimate £1,000-£1,500).

Auction records in Geneva when Christie's sold the Kurt Homme collection of gold coins of Spain and the Spanish colonies, formed in the 1960s. The greatest rarity was the Madrid provisional government (1870) 100 pesetas, which established a new record auction price for a gold coin at 418,000 Swiss francs (estimate 150,000-200,000 frs) or £126,667. The Madrid 100 pesetas of Amadeo I (1871-1873) was almost as rare and brought 187,000 S frs (estimate 100,000-120,000 frs) or 156,667. The sale made almost £700,000 with eight per cent unsold.

Christie's had more difficulty than usual in selling travel and natural history books with 38 per cent unsold; three major items failed to find buyers. David Roberts' *The Holy Land, Syria* ..., with 90 lithographed views coloured and mounted dating from 1842-45, sold for £13,200 (estimate £6,000-£8,000) to Mansour.

Birthdays today



Mr John Alderton, the actor, who is 41.

Mr Rowan Bentall, 70; Mr Rodney Bewes, 44; the Very Rev E. P. Carpenter, 71; Sir Rex Cohen, 75; [illegible] Cutts, 77; Admiral Sir Ian Easton, 64; Lord Howard de Walden, 69; Lieutenant-General Sir Edward Howard-Vyse, 76; Mr Walter Klien, 53; Viscount Lambert, 72; the Marquess of Lansdowne, 69; Mr Alan Simpson, 52; Lord Trevelyan, 76; Mr Ernie Wise, 56.

Moreover . . .Miles Kington

There are any amount of organizations which deal with people's problems behind a cloak of discretion — Alcoholics Anonymous, Gamblers Anonymous, CB Freaks Anonymous, Parliamentary Press Lobby etc. But there is another, less well-publicized set of groups that deal with people who for one reason or another can't remain anonymous.

The John Cleese Look-Alike Lobby. If you are tall, thin and intelligent-looking, with a thin moustache, there is every chance that people keep coming up to you in the street and saying: "Do us a silly walk, mister!". Especially if you're a man. Adrian Wardour-Street, PR man for the John Cleese Look-Alike Lobby, says they are very angry indeed.

"Well, I'm not angry personally, because I look more like Gene Kelly, but my members are very angry indeed. I mean, I can imagine it's bad enough if you are John Cleese himself and people come up to you saying, 'Where's Manuel, then?' but at least he's got the money to comfort himself

But surely John Cleese's appearance keeps changing? He seems to have more hair than usual now, and he has recently grown a beard, hasn't he?

"Yes, but that only makes it worse. Believe me, most of my members had grown more hair and beards before Cleese ever did. They get a few weeks' respite then, bang! — he's copying them and they all get recognized again. Our only comeback is to insist on signing autographs for these people. You'd be amazed how many John Cleese signatures vary throughout the country."

Wrong Names Inc. This is a new West End club designed to attract well-known people who suffer from unusual names and would like to get away from it all for a while. They chiefly are interested in people whom nature has derived of surnames and given only first names — Clive James, Alan Brien, Dave Allen, Ian Jack, Susan George and so on.

"Oh, hello again," says club secretary Adrian Wardour-Steet. "Yes, we're hoping to get these first-name sufferers together as much as possible — perhaps your own Philip Howard could give them some publicity — and let them meet people who have *only* surnames and no Christian names. Like Russell Davies, Sheridan Morley, Woodrow Wyatt. Perhaps they could, I don't know, just swap names for the afternoon."

There will also be a private sitting room for men with apparently girls' names, like Hilary Rubinstein, Peregrine Worsthorne and Evelyn Waugh, where they can spend an hour or two calling each other Chuck and Bud.

"Yes, you're absolutely right", said Adrian, when I pointed out to him that Evelyn was dead." I must have been thinking of his son, Auberon. King of the fairies or something, wasn't he?

Straight Gays. A small but select group of people, businesses mostly, who were called gay long before the word became appropriated. The Gay Hussar Restaurant, of course; Gay Search, Gay Talese, and the Gay Dry Cleaning Parlour of Lytham St Annes. They do not indulge in direct action, as it is difficult to know what direct action they can take, but they have international links with Sweden, where many people are christened Bent.

The Name's The Same, Dammit. A social drinking club where people with the same name as celebrities or even famous things can get together and drown their sorrows.

"I'm not strictly a sufferer from the problem", says their spokesman Adrian Wardour-Street, "as quite truthfully I changed my name to Wardour-Street by deed poll. Great help in the business, you know. We cater for any amount of Shirley Williamses and Roy Jenkinses at the moment, but the people we're really trying to help are the ones who go through life with names like Goodwin Sands and Chesham Bois. We had a new member yesterday called Watford Gapp. And we have a an awfully nice Asian member called Kilroy Wazir. I just don't understand how parents can do it to their children".

OBITUARY

REV NORMAN DAWSON

Work in ecumenical affairs and race relations

The Rev Norman Dawson, General Superintendent of the Methodist Church in Hongkong and chairman of the Hongkong English Methodist District has died in hospital there after a brief illness. He was 61.

Before taking up his appointment in Hongkong in 1980 he was for 11 years chairman of the London South East District of the Methodist Church. During this period the ecumenical vision which had marked his ministry came to fruition. He worked closely in ecumenical affairs with the former Bishop of Southwark, the Rt Rev Mervyn Stockwood.

The partnership had begun in Bristol in the early 1950s when Dawson was minister of Redfield Church and Bishop Stockwood was vicar of St Matthews, Moorfields. Both men were members of the United Front, an early ecumenical experiment.

In South London they jointly launched a number of ecumenical projects and Dawson was a founder member of the Southwark Sponsoring Body for Ecumenical Experiments, first chairman of the Kent Sponsoring Body and chairman of Thamesmead Christian Community.

His work in the area of race relations was widely appreciated and he took an early initiative to establish contact between the Church and the Police.

Norman Dawson was born in Sunderland and graduated in engineering at Durham University before studying for the ministry at Wesley House, Cambridge. He was from 1948 to 1954 Chaplain to the Leys School, Cambridge.

He is survived by his wife, Marian, and three daughters.

MR NORMAN LEYLAND

Mr Norman Leyland, Bursar of Brasenose College, Oxford, died suddenly on November 23. He was 60.

Norman Harrison Leyland was born on August 27, 1921. From Manchester Grammar School he won a scholarship in Classics at Brasenose. In 1940 he began reading PPE but in 1941 joined the RAF. He returned to Oxford after the war, took his finals and was promptly appointed lecturer in economics at Brasenose in 1947 becoming Official Fellow and Tutor in 1949.

Like other tutors of that period he had to carry a load of teaching beyond the wildest nightmares of subsequent generations of Dons and he carried it with élan and unflagging energy winning and ever after retaining the warm affection and admiration of his many pupils. In due course he became Bursar (while continuing his teaching work) but surrendered that office as he became more and more immersed in the establishing of the Oxford Centre for Management Studies of which he became the first director in 1975.

While there he served for three years (1967-70) as chairman of the Consumers' Committee of Great Britain. His interests as an economist had always been very much in the field of finance and the operations of Stock Exchanges and business and investment so it was no surprise that in 1970, having set the centre on a sound footing, he moved on to work in the City where he made a wide circle of friends and won deep respect for his acumen and skill.

Even after resigning as Bursar Norman remained a Fellow of Brasenose, holding the newly-created office of Investment Bursar and giving unsparingly and generously of his time and expertise. When the Bursarship became vacant again in 1979 it was with delight that Brasenose learned that he was ready once more to take on that onerous task.

His skill in managing college finances was unsurpassed in Oxford and his relations with colleagues, staff and junior members were of the very best. His chief and lasting memorial will be the new Frewin Hall complex of the college which has almost doubled its residential accommodation and which happily was as good as completed when this supremely fit and active man so suddenly and unexpectedly met his death.

He was twice married and leaves two daughters and a son by his first marriage.

MR A. A. BELLAMY

Mr Cleeve Barr writes:

A great many of your readers will be saddened at the announcement in your columns of the death of Alec Bellamy at the early age of 67.

To architects in public offices all over the country he was a father figure at the old Ministry of Housing throughout the post-war period till he retired in the 1970s — extremely knowledgeable and dependable, but always courteous and calm.

He will be specially remembered as technical adviser to the Parker Morris Committee on Housing Standards, which produced its Report, *Homes for Today and Tomorrow* in 1961. This was a bible of the way people live in their houses, flats and surroundings and looked forward to the next 25 years. It has been used as a quarry by house designers, both in public and private employ, throughout Britain and abroad. He also edited most of the material for the Technical Appendices of the Housing Manuals, now so much out of fashion. It was not his fault that so many detailed aspects of housing standards became the instruments of pettyfogging bureaucracy.

He earlier worked on the Abercrombie — Forshaw London Plan, contributed advice to Ministers on environmental and architectural matters, and spent a spell in the USA on a Commonwealth Fellowship. He was an Under-Secretary Housing at the DOE from 1972.

No one in the country had a greater knowledge of housing, or a sounder judgment, than he, and much of the credit for some good housing in the hey-day of public architecture is due to his influence.

REGINO SAINZ DE LA MAZA

Senor Regino Sainz de la Maza, the noted Spanish classical guitarist, died on November 26. He was 85. Sainz de la Maza was well known on the recital circuit both in Spain and throughout the world, and was regarded as one of Spain's four leading guitar soloists. Himself the composer of numerous guitar pieces he played the *Concierto de Aranjuez* of Manuel Lopez Ramos, at its first performance in 1940, the work having been written as a tribute to him by the composer.

Brigadier Richard Clarke Lyons, CIE, MC, sometime Chief Inspector of Armaments, India and Ordnance Consulting Officer for India (India Office) died on November 14 at the age of 88.

Mr Herbert Morgan Jones, CBE, died on November 1 at the age of 68. He had served in the Second World War with the Straits Settlements Volunteer Force and the South African Tank Corps and was later chairman of Anglo-Egyptian Oilfields Ltd, 1952-56; president of Shell Brazil, 1959-63; chief representative in India of the Burmah Shell Companies, 1963-65; and a director of Shell Int Co Ltd, 1965-67. He was made CBE in 1957.

Lady McNeill, widow of Sir James McNeill, KCVO, CBE, MC, FRS, formerly deputy chairman and managing director of John Brown and Company, Clydeside, died on November 16. She was Jean Ross, daughter of Alexander McLaughlan, and she was married in 1924. Her husband died in 1964.

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Television

Parental conviction

The Harrisons are the kind of family who give education authorities a special kind of headache. They are neither feckless nor failing but different and determined to remain so. Two of their four children went to school for short periods; two have never been. All four are dyslexic and their parents believe that by educating them at home, enabling them to cope with the world by acquiring basic skills and coming to academic ones only when they are ready, they can do a better job than a school, even when it has a special unit to cope with dyslexia.

It is a mighty undertaking, which would surely leave most of us feeling ill-equipped, and such parental resolution conflicts with authority which has to consider the welfare of the children; whether, if it does nothing, the children might one day consider they have been let down by their parents and authority, all the people who could be expected to know better.

This was the dilemma *Forty Minutes* considered on BBC 2 last night. The children — Wanda, 18, Andrea Jane, 17, Grant, 16, and Newall, 11 — were talked to and seen round the family's Worcestershire smallholding which is their classroom. Here they manifested impressive practical skills which, their parents believe, will enable them gradually to master the three Rs. On the face of it, it seemed to be working. All four showed considerable confidence which, their parents argued, would be blighted at school. All shared their parents' conviction, which is neither surprising nor conclusive.

The family have already taken flight once from Cheltenham, where they found authority encroaching, but now find a different authority no less intrusive — in fact there is a court ruling that the two younger children must attend school even though the court recognized the parents' success with the elder two, now outside compulsory school age.

The producer, Ruth Jackson, who made a most careful and unpartisan programme, did the interviewing, leaving conclusions to viewers. Such passion as there was came from the parents rather than the education authority, whose spokesman was both reasonable and concerned. Legal processes being as lengthy as they are, time could resolve the argument *in the family's favour*. Whether that will prove to be the correct solution is a different matter, but this juxtaposition of parental conviction and convention made a compelling programme.

Dennis Hackett

Concerts

Rare and welcome

BBCSO/Boulez

Festival Hall/Radio 3

London sees and hears little of Pierre Boulez since he left his post as chief conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra in 1975. On Wednesday, a warm-hearted and sizable audience welcomed him back to the South Bank.

His oeuvre grows slowly, and on Wednesday he presented no new work. His music germinates, is refashioned, left suspended until all its possibilities are exhausted, many of them realizable only through performance. His *Livre pour Cordes*, for instance, which we heard juxtaposed revealingly with a finely-nuanced, pulsing performance of Webern's *Five Movements for Orchestra*, is, like the Webern, an extensive orchestral reworking, rebirth even, of an earlier work for quartet. Only one of its six movements has yet been transformed, its shifting, coalescing melodic strands reflected, as Boulez puts it, through the instrumental groupings "as if in multiple mirrors", its energy coiling, springing and pouncing.

In *Pli selon pli*, though, Boulez presents us with a microcosm of creation and re-creation itself. As its movements open out, fold upon fold, the words from five poems of Mallarmé become absorbed and eventually displaced, through its three "Improvisations". The poem, summoned into birth vocally at the beginning, gives its life, as it were, for the music, which in turn is born and dies in the contraction and death spasm at the beginning and end of its two outer movements.

The work lends itself to being described away, its artistic manifesto comprehended intellectually by reference to the linguistic and aesthetic theories shared by Boulez and Mallarmé, and our reception of it eased by a knowledge of its images of energy and sterility, birth and death which the one provides for the other. But what the senses apprehend is the working of a meticulously precise, minutely sensuous aural imagination, beckoning sound, movement and order out of void, restricting, circumscribing and suspending their breath and resonance, with pitched and unpitched percussion, bells and plucked instruments drying and disturbing the rhapsody of voice and bow.

As the last "Improvisation's" long vocalise, an apotheosis of Phyllis Bryn-Julson's compelling and moving performance, leads to the exultant heterophony of the closing "Tombeau" we feel not only the chill of the act of creation's self-regard, but also an intense self-love which rages in spite of itself, against the dying of the light.

Hilary Finch

Dubious novelties

LMP / Blech

Queen Elizabeth Hall

New works by Mozart and Haydn were billed for Wednesday's concert by the London Mozart Players under Harry Blech. The Mozart to be exact was not quite new to London, though certainly new to present Londoners since the last performance was probably its premiere in February, 1765. This was the long-lost Symphony in F that turned up in Munich last year and could immediately be identified because Mozart's father had once noted down its opening bars. Radio 3 let us hear it during the summer.

It stands well enough alongside the other compositions — perhaps showing a touch of paternal help — of the nine-year-old boy. There is a brisk, busy first movement, not unlike J. C. Bach, shapely if rather sectional; a charming Andante distinguished by its neatly-managed accompanying parts; and a slightly ordinary though amply spirited finale. Nannerl Mozart related how, as her brother wrote these first symphonies, he urged her to remind him to give something interesting to the horns. No other surviving one has even faintly interesting horn parts, but this piece happily corroborates her tale.

The "Haydn" was a cello concerto. But this was no true novelty, just the resurrection of a feeble piece long known and long rejected from the Haydn canon (the misleading programme note notwithstanding). Some think it the work of the obscure G. B. Costanzi. Never mind: it allowed us to hear the remarkable artistry of Julian Lloyd Webber, whose virile tone and perceptive phrasing can animate even the dullest series of sequences and whose sure technique can justify a very naughty cadenza.

Stanley Sadie

● The Spring Season of the BBC Symphony Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall will include two concerts conducted by John Pritchard, the orchestra's Chief Conductor-elect. Guest appearances will be made by Michael Gielen, Sir Charles Groves, Gennadi Rozhdestvensky, Karlheinz Stockhausen and Rudolf Barshai. Gunter Wand and Brian Wright will conduct the orchestra's spring concerts at the Royal Albert Hall.

Two major choral works, Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and Elgar's *The Apostles*, will be performed. There will be three concerts of twentieth-century music, two of these forming part of the BBC/LOCB "Music of Eight Decades" series. Stockhausen's *Inori* — a work which incorporates mimes — will be given on March 3 and directed by the composer, who will also give a pre-concert talk.

Cinema

Bertolucci on the ambiguity of youth

Tragedy of a Ridiculous Man (AA)

Gate, Notting Hill

Mommie Dearest (AA)

Plaza

A Slap in the Face

National Film Theatre



Keeping Italy's economy moving: Ugo Tognazzi in "Tragedy of a Ridiculous Man"

Bernardo Bertolucci's newest film, *Tragedy of a Ridiculous Man*, marks a break with his previous work in several ways. It is, he says, "prose not poetry". The impression of a consciously more prosaic style, without the old baroque and bravura, is emphasized by the harder style of the cinematographer Carlo di Palma, replacing Bertolucci's usual collaborator Vittorio Storaro, who was not available for the film.

The ostensible subject, a kidnapping, is up-to-the-minute: Ugo Tognazzi plays Primo, a cheese manufacturer of Parma or thereabouts, "the sort of small entrepreneur who keeps Italy's economy moving in the midst of anarchy". But anarchy overtakes Primo: one day he witnesses the kidnapping of his own son. Despite his growing suspicion that the kidnapping may be some sort of trick engineered by the son himself, Primo sets systematically about disposing of his goods and assets, to bargain with the kidnappers. His bourgeois wife (Anouk Aimée) accepts more easily than Primo, the self-made businessman, that they live in a world where you get what you pay for, even if it is a human life.

The most fundamental change from the director's earlier works comes from one significant fact: that Bernardo Bertolucci, the youthful prodigy of twenty years ago, is forty now. Practically all of his films have been about fathers and sons; but this is the first time the director sees with the father's eyes, He even wrote the scenario, he reveals, in the first person. The young, he acknowledges, have now become a mystery to him. His younger actors have "the dark, introspective secret looks I like". "They talk less than my generation did", says Primo; "and from their silence you cannot figure out if they are asking for help or getting ready to shoot you.... Our children represent the dreadful ambiguity of our life today."

The problem of the film is that Bertolucci is overly fascinated by enigma for its own sake, and leaves the audience rather groping after his intentions. He explains cheerfully: "The film reflects an ambiguity I feel is typical of Italian society today — and elsewhere too. There are no certainties left: No one knows any more what the truth is — about the Kennedy assassinations or the British spy scandals or the murder of Aldo Moro." Which is true enough; but leaves Bertolucci's audience in disconcerting suspension.

In the matter of Joan Crawford's adopted children I speak with the shreddy authority of one who once had the job of minding them. It was when their mother was filming *The Story of Esther Costello*; and my charges did not include Christina Crawford, on whose reminiscences the film *Mommie Dearest* is based, since she was being punished at the time for some slight fault by incarceration in a convent school. I was responsible for the alleged twins, Cathy and Cindy, then around eight.

Miss Crawford, even in 1957, was still an extraordinary and fascinating creature. She was slighter, more girlish and sandier in colouring than you might imagine from the photographs; and she had still, when on show, something of the vibrancy of Wild Diana Merrick, the character she embodied in *Our Dancing Daughters* in 1928, and who exulted "It feels so good — just to be alive." That was when Scott Fitzgerald described her "dancing deliciously, laughing a great deal, with wide, hurt eyes."

She carried her feelings like grazes on the skin: the slightest thing could inflame them. A telephone call from a fan (answered personally of course) would produce a flood of grateful tears. If the children were momentarily out of her sight, she would be certain they had been kidnapped or had fallen off the balcony of the Oliver Messel Suite, and would react on a scale appropriate to such catastrophe. This, of course, added somewhat to the hazards of minding the twins; but it went off all right.

As to the children, had I known that physical attack was part of Miss Crawford's programme I might have volunteered a thump or two. Once out of her hearing, they were the most awful little minxes; though it was hard not to admire their fiendish impersonations of Joan Crawford's "my little dawlings" performance. My credence in *Mommie Dearest* is enhanced by seeing the infant Christina doing precisely the same unkind but deadly accurate imitations.

Frank Perry's film of *Mommie Dearest* is a horror story a shade less fearful than the original book. The sort of compassion and understanding that Crawford, as mother, requires is inevitably hardest for the children who experienced her parenthood to feel. At bottom, no doubt, her need to have children was genuine. So, certainly, was the belief in the ultimate benefits of the very old-fashioned physical and moral discipline from which she had never spared herself.

The problems for everyone concerned arose when this iron discipline came into conflict or coincidence with the caprices, the neuroses, the hysteria and the anxieties of the actress. Crawford battled to the top and maintained her place for more than forty years. The appalling strain upon her personality was shared with those around her. Time made the strains only more intolerable: the fear of age and failure was finally to tumble her into drink and reclusion.

Christina Crawford's story does not mince matters: life as the child of this sacred Hollywood monster was most of the time hell. The film spares none of the agonies of the relationship, from the adoption of Baby Christina in 1940 to the star's end, all painted up in a Californian funeral parlour in 1977. "I did it", says the mortician proudly, "from my own signed photograph of her".

The point of the film is the astounding make-up job that practically convinces you that Faye Dunaway is Joan Crawford. It is a puzzle though to decide whether to blame the director, the actress or the shade of Crawford herself when the star's hysterical set-pieces are pitched to *grand guignol* excess so ludicrous that they provoke wild mirth rather than shock. In America the devotees chant out the favourite lines in chorus with the film: "Tina — bring me the axe" (to chop down the garden in a tantrum: in real life it was merely a saw); or "Wire coat-hangers! I buy you 300-dollar dresses and you hang them on wire coat-hangers". The coat-hangers are used for a thrashing only slightly less scary than Crawford's sturdy attempt to strangle her daughter.

The lookalike game is well played. Harry Goz is much as I remember Alfred Steele, Crawford's docile and adoring Pepsi-Cola king. As the infant Christina, Mara Hobel is believable and touching; but she grows up to be Diana Scarwid, with an inexplicable southern accent and a bizarre likeness to Mercedes McCambridge, Crawford's on-and-off screen adversary in *Johnny Guitar*. Howard De Silva, as a one-time blacklist victim, must have found a wry satisfaction in playing Louis B. Mayer of MGM, Hollywood's most servile tool of McCarthyism.

For all the gruesome fascination of the careful recreations, *Mommie Dearest* is a dismal experience. Crawford devoted over forty years to giving people dreams: it is a mean trick now to drag up her nightmares, whatever one's sympathies with a child's resentments. The last and best word on the film comes from *Variety*, the unsentimental trade paper of American show business: "Nobody ever lived a life that deserved this".

We owe to Patrick Gibbs, film critic of *The Daily Telegraph*, the discovery, in the wasteland of the Soviet cinema, of a jewel of a picture, made in the Armenian Republic, Henrik Malian's A Slap in the Face. It was shown last week in the London Film Festival; but there are further chances to see it (on December 1 and 8) in a season of Armenian films at the National Film Theatre. The existence of a lively Armenian cinema should surprise no one: after all the country produced both Rouben Mamoulian and Elia Kazan.

It is irresistable to invoke the memory of Pagnol's Marseilles stories in connexion with this comedy of small-town life in the early years of the century. The hero is an orphan, adopted and trained by the humble ass-sadler. The lad's slowness worries the good man, and after his death makes it hard for his widow to find a bride for the orphan — until the day the young man takes matters into his own hands and scandalizes the town by marrying the sweetest little prostitute from an itinerant brothel.

However exotic and colourful the setting, the people are reassuringly, humanly familiar. Malian has a wonderful way with comedy: the wordless study of the various ruses adopted by the locals as they pretend that they are not rushing to the brothel is in itself a comic *tour de force*. In Soviet terms the film is thoroughly subversive in its assertion of the right to individual happiness, and the hypocrisy of the community. "The community didn't care when I was unhappy", declares the hero, "and now they condemn me". He defies them, and takes our hearts with him as he proudly drives his wife and step-mother around the town, the one liberated man in the whole bigoted place.

David Robinson

Opera



Robert Dean as Pelléas, Eilene Hannan as Mélisande

Pelléas and Mélisande

Coliseum

It was more than time to break the hallowed taboo against singing Debussy's masterpiece in English. Maeterlinck's words fit Debussy's vocal lines with a calculated precision that resists translation. They are not of epoch-making literary quality, but do need to be understood completely, if an audience is to be caught up in a fine performance of the piece, such as we heard at the Coliseum on Wednesday.

English National Opera had at last taken the plunge, and were staging *Pelléas and Mélisande* for the first time in their history. Most of us were hearing it sung in English for the first time, too. Hugh Macdonald, the translator of this version, being a musician himself, had simply made an apt rendering into English and fitted Debussy's notes to it, rather than the other way about.

The new match of words and notes sounds perfectly stylish because it is musicianly. The words tell in performance with an immediacy that we also feel in the ENO *Ring*. This *Pelléas* had more impact for me than any I have attended hitherto, though some improvements in word-stressing can still be made to the translation.

I understood most of the sung words, even though the Pelléas, a brave last-minute replacement, was not yet sufficiently mature of voice to project easily in such a big house. The orchestral music, played with a full complement of passion and atmospheric evocation, did not drown voices or words. *Pelléas* in English is not merely possible, it has happened, at least musically in responsible Debussy style, an unexpected and major artistic achievement.

For a nicely stylish *Pelléas* in English most of us might have chosen a French conductor and producer. ENO chose Mark Elder, who acquitted himself with real distinction, and Harry Kupfer from the Comic Opera in East Berlin. Kupfer gave us a more or less straight *Pelléas*, the drama and characters clearly drawn, some strong theatrical effects but no cardinal sins against the music. Reinhard Heinrich's costumes suggested an updating to the turn of the century. Pelléas and Yniold wore formal suits, Arkel wheeled himself in a bathchair and wore dark glasses, Geneviève was the French matriarch of Debussy's day.

Pelléas involves plentiful scene-changes. They are quickly done in this production without curtain-falls. There is a permanent set of two rotating greenhouses surmounted by steps to balconies. It did not work at the start in the dense forest, where Mélisande crouches by a strip of kitchen foil representing a pool, below Golaud negotiating a crag of what looked like lobster claws. The sky is open, though text and music declare the forest to be dense.

Afterwards the fish fingers hover aloft as a bird of prey, waiting on the drama's victims, watching with one eye, ravening with an empty stomach that cannot be filled. The predatory menace makes its point, and duly descends at the end, leaving Yniold holding Mélisande's baby at the front of the stage — a reasonable even if simplistic conclusion.

Kufper's production does well by the tramps in the cave, and the trial of Pelléas in the dungeon (blinded by Golaud's torch, then again by return to daylight). He almost spoils the episode of Mélisande's tumbling hair by taking Pelléas away to sentimentalize over it. Some clumsy lighting effects will surely be righted at once.

Kupfer gives us a good cast of characters. Neil Howlett's Golaud is unusually sympathetic, a reasonable fellow driven mad by jealous frustration. Eilene Hannan, already an experienced Australian Mélisande, has the fey, estranged quality, and the finesse of voice, for her most memorable lines and phrases. Hers is a potent, entrancing heroine, most touching. Her replacement Pelléas, Robert Dean, looked well in his dashing Byronic attire, and cut a romantic figure, even in difficult attitudes. Sarah Walker's greatly authoritative Geneviève and John Tomlinson's deeply moving Arkel showed how much *Pelléas* has to give in English.

William Mann

London debuts

Daring choices

The oboist Peter Bree was more to be congratulated on an enterprising programme than most debutants. In Röntgen's Sonata No 1 a late Romantic vocabulary is employed, rather unusually, in music that is clear-cut in gesture, almost neo-classical, and suggestive of the open air. The performance was reasonably tidy, as was that of Britten's *Temporal Variations*.

This latter has rarely been heard since its 1936 première, and is well made but cold, like so much of this composer's music. Andriessen's Sonata was an engagingly energetic teenage piece; of little consequence, it gave rise to some deft playing. The Duo Op 156 by Rubbra had its first London hearing, and proved to be a sombre yet rather insistent trifle.

Mr Bree's pianist, Paul Komen, offered two solos and showed himself to have most of the technique necessary for Rachmaninov's Corelli Variations. The final pages were undeniably impressive in their force and amplitude, but generally this performance concentated on pianistic rather than musical aspects.

In a suite from Falla's *El Amor Brujo* Mr Komen's playing was spirited and colourful yet rather heavy in effect. He appeared to have a better appreciation of the idiom of this work than of the Rachmaninov, but his reading of it was less varied than ought to be possible with music that has so much rhythmic life.

It is unfortunate that nearly all cello recitalists feel they must include unaccompanied Bach, just as pianists seem compelled to play late Beethoven. Ksenija Jankovic began fluently enough with the D minor Suite yet showed no particular insight or sense of musical shape. She was then joined by Nada Kecman at the piano for Brahms's Sonata Op 99.

This was a rough and ready performance revealing scant regard for the music's style; in fact long passages managed, with their severely unbalanced textures, to sound quite unlike Brahms. In Debussy's Sonata Miss Jankovic produced a more sympathetic cello tone, but the reading was too overtly dramatic, especially on the pianist's part.

Max Harrison

Theatre

Jonsonian fun

The Soldier's Fortune

Lyric, Hammersmith

At the time he wrote this extraordinary comedy Thomas Otway was (a) hard up and (b) embittered at being disbanded from the 1678 Flanders campaign. The result was a play that begins as a hack moneymaking venture and then, amazingly, catches fire.

There is no suspicion of what is coming in the opening scenes. As usual there are two gallants (disbanded officers), two girls, one jealous old fool doubling as husband and guardian, and one elderly bisexual pimp, all buzzing round their respective honey-pots, and outpunning each other's verbal ejaculations.

Then, at half time, when all the parties are due to collide in the Restoration equivalent of a Feydeau hotel, the action abruptly comes to a halt: the two ex-officers, Beaugard and Courtine, sit over their drinks and cast their minds back to the lost paradise of camp life, and when the plot resumes they return to it as starving wolves let loose on the mean pastures of civilian society.

Artificial comedy gives way to drunken assault and attempted murder. The erotic playground opens up into the squalor and danger of the London streets. And civilian and military characters alike break out of their stereotypes. The pimp is shown to have his own code of honour. The deceived husband emerges as a treacherous villain, prompting the key line: "I never met a cuckold yet but was a false rogue in heart." And the girls do more than wait for their lovers to make the arrangements; when Courtine presents himself, drunk, under Sylvia's window, she leaves him dangling on a rope, and then, when he manages to break in, she ties him up and puts him through a scene of psychological torture.

It is not a neat play; but it could look a good deal better planned than it does in Sheila Hancock's Cambridge Theatre Company production, which gives the impression of being tied helplessly to a fast-moving vehicle. The first half, in spite of Hugh Paddick's deft exhibition of senile lechery, trundles a dead weight of misfiring gags and opaque narrative.

But when Otway picks up, so does the production. There is fine Jonsonian fun in the misfiring murder conspiracy; and the eruption of James Aubrey's Courtine as a fire-breathing brawler, putting Brian Murphy's trembling sword-stick aside with his campaign-seasoned blade, memorably fixes the moment when the masks fall away and life takes over.

Irving Wardle

Stock Exchange Prices

Equities mark time

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 23. Dealings End, Dec 4. § Contango Day, Dec 7. Settlement Day, Dec 14

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS								
99⅛	88	Treas	8¼%	1980-82	99⅛	+1/32	8.575	14.266
97½	81¾	Treas	3%	1982	97½	..	3.077	14.402
103¾	90½	Treas	14%	1982	99⅞	..	14.018	14.235
96⅞	85⅝	Treas	8¼%	1982	96⅝	..	8.538	14.312
98¼	85¾	Exch	9¼%	1982	96⅛	..	9.623	14.973
95⅛	84⅛	Exch	8¾%	1983	95⅛	..	9.198	13.577
93	76½	Exch	3%	1983	89¾	..	3.343	12.145
99¾	85¾	Treas.	12%	1983	97½	..	12.355	14.502
94⅛	84⅛	Treas	9½%	1983	93⅞	..	9.906	13.885
102⅞	94¼	Exch	13½%	1983	98⅞	+⅛	13.738	14.632
94	84⅛	Exch	10%	1983	92⅞	• ..	10.825	14.450
88	76⅛	Fund	5½%	1982-84	85½	−⅛	6.434	13.505
97	86⅛	Exch	11¼%	1984	92⅞	−⅛	12.129	15.156
104	94½	Exch	14%	1984	98⅞	−⅛	14.231	14.836
82¾	68¾	Exch	3%	1984	79¼	• ..	3.785	12.743
99⅞	88	Treas	12%	1984	93½	−⅛	12.856	14.578
109¾	95⅞	Treas	15%	1985	99	−⅛	15.152	15.382
98⅛	88⅞	Exch Cv	12%	1985	91⅞	−⅛	13.097	15.312
76	65	Treas	3%	1985	72⅞	+⅛	4.132	13.026
96	85⅞	Treas	11½%	1985	88⅞	−⅛	12.976	15.678
103¾	87⅞	Exch	12¼%	1985	91½	−⅛	13.388	15.176
97⅞	84⅞	Exch	11¼%	1986	88⅞	−⅛	13.258	15.478
80	65⅞	Treas	3%	1986	68½	..	4.380	12.374
97⅞	84⅞	Treas	12%	1986	89¼	•−⅛	13.445	15.392
MEDIUMS								
89⅞	78⅞	Treas	8½%	1984-86	81¼	−¼	10.461	14.160
105⅛	90⅞	Exch	13½%	1987	97¾	−⅛	14.241	15.225
81⅛	70¼	Fund	6½%	1985-87	75¼	−¼	8.688	13.143
99⅞	81½	Treas	12%	1987	87⅞	−⅛	13.854	15.532
83	71⅞	Treas	7¾%	1985-88	77⅞	−¼	10.368	13.970
65⅞	54⅞	Trans	3%	1978-88	61¼	•−⅛	4.835	11.329
98	79½	Treas	11½%	1989	85½	−⅛	13.940	15.601

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
305	170½	ML Hldgs	305	+7	10.0	3.3	9.8
50½	27	MY Dart	29	• ..	2.6	9.1	5.0
150	86	McCorquodale	126	..	11.4	9.1	6.1
83	65	Macfarlane	70	..	5.3	7.6	8.4
43	18	McInerney Prop	22	..	2.2	10.1	5.1
83	26	Mackay H.	43	+3	5.2	12.0	15.7
127	84	McKechnie Bros	91	..	10.4	11.4	7.1
100	56	Macpherson D.	64	..	6.0	9.4	24.2
174	80¾	Magnet & S'thns	144	..	7.1	5.0	10.8
217	97	Man Agcy Music	121	−3	12.5b	10.3	4.2
225	101	Man Ship Canal	103	..	..e	..	..
36	21	Mang Bronze	25	..	3.1	12.4	..
164	67	Marchwiel	112	..	8.6	7.7	..
142	76	Marks & Spencer	128	..	5.8	4.5	17.4
51	33½	Marley Ltd	40	+1½	3.2	8.0	9.3

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
107	70	Stag Furniture	85	+2	7.1	8.4	7.2
55½	29¾	Stalds (Reo)	46½	+1	2.1	4.5	7.9
544	230	Standard Tel	495	+5	15.0	3.3	14.9
87	45	Stanley A. G.	46	..	3.6	7.8	7.4
225	135	Steel Bros	219	..	11.4	5.2	8.4
222	154	Steetley Co.	174	−1	15.0	8.6	8.4
25½	12½	Steinberg	25½	..	..	..	..
120	84	Stonehill	100	..	12.1	12.1	34.4
56	9	Stone Platt	9½	..	..	..	..
33	11	Streeters	24	..	..	..	8.2
80	48	Strong & Fisher	50	• ..	9.7	19.4	..
110	42	Sunlight Serv	93	..	3.6	3.9	7.6
82	25	Sutcliffe S'man	45	..	..e	..	..
188	61½	Swire Pacific 'A'	110	+½	..	..	..
301	140	Sytone	159	..	12.9	8.1	17.6

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

RECENT ISSUES

RIGHTS ISSUES

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) November 26	Market rates (close) November 26	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.9340-9430	$1.9390-9400	0.57-0.47c prem	1.28-1.15c prem
Montreal	$2.2810-2900	$2.2860-2880	0.23-0.33c disc	0.30-0.40c disc
Amsterdam	4.71-74fl	4.72-73fl	1½-1 c prem	3½-3⅛c prem
Brussels	72.30-70f	72.40-50f	Par-10c disc	25-35c disc
Copenhagen	13.86-91k	13.90-91k	230-140ore prem	155-20ore prem
Dublin	1.2110-2175p	1.2135-2145p	30-45p disc	100-125p disc
Frankfurt	4.30-33m	4.31-32m	1½-1¼pf prem	4½-4¼pf prem
Lisbon	123.80-125.50e	124.9-125.20e	20-185c disc	55-390c disc
Madrid	184.00-185.00p	184.60-184.80p	25-65c disc	75-120c disc
Milan	2308-2317lr	2314-2316lr	11-14lr disc	38½-40½lr disc
Oslo	11.10-16k	11.14-15k	180-275ore disc	145-35ore prem
Paris	10.80-91f	10.87-88f	¼-1¼c disc	4¼-5¼c disc
Stockholm	10.56-62k	10.58-60k	150-80ore prem	485-415ore prem
Tokyo	416-421y	418½-419½y	2.95-2.65y prem	7.55-7.25y prem
Vienna	3.30-35sch	30.28-33sch	20-10gro prem	40-30gro prem
Zurich	3.43-46	3.44½-45½f	1⅞-1⅜c prem	4½-3⅞c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was up 0.1 at 91.2.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 15%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 15¼ Low 14

Week Fixed: 15-14½

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	14⅝	2 months	14⅛
3 months	13⅞	3 months	13¾

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	14⅞-14⅛	3 months	14¾
3 months	13²⁹/₃₂-13²⁵/₃₂	4 months	14½
4 months	13⅞-13¾	6 months	14
6 months	13⅝-13½		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15⅞-15⅛	7 months	14½-14¼
2 months	15⅛-15	8 months	14½-14¼
3 months	15-14¾	9 months	14⅝-14⅜
4 months	14¾-14½	10 months	14⅝-14⅜
5 months	14⅝-14⅜	11 months	14⅝-14⅜
6 months	14½-14¼	12 months	14⅝-14⅜

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	15⅛-15	6 months	14¼-14⅛
3 months	14¹¹/₁₆-14⁹/₁₆	12 months	14⁵/₁₆-14³/₁₆

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	15½	3 months	14⅞
7 days	15½	6 months	14½
1 month	15⅛	1 year	14½

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 15⅞-15½ Close 12

1 week	15¼-15⅛	6 months	14⁵/₁₆-14³/₁₆
1 month	15⁵/₁₆-15³/₁₆	9 months	14⅜-14¼
3 months	14⅞-14¾	12 months	14⅜-14¼

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 15⅛ 6 months 15

Finance House Base Rate 16%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6790-1.6840
Bahrein	0.7297-0.7327
Finland	8.3690-8.4090
Greece	107.80-108.80
Hongkong	10.9430-10.7830
Iran	Not available
Kuwait	0.5418-0.5448
Malaysia	4.3410-4.3710
Mexico	49.25-50.75
New Zealand	2.3065-2.3265
Saudi Arabia	6.6165-6.6465
Singapore	3.9650-3.9950
South Africa	1.8625-1.8675

Dollar Spot Rates

*Ireland	1.5920-1.5960
†Canada	1.1775-1.1780
Netherlands	2.4350-2.4380
Belgium	37.40-37.45
Denmark	7.1550-7.1600
West Germany	2.2235-2.2250
Portugal	64.40-64.60
Spain	95.05-95.15
Italy	1194.75-1195.75
Norway	5.7450-5.7500
France	5.6075-5.6125
Sweden	5.4600-5.4650
Japan	215.90-216.05
Austria	15.61-15.64
Switzerland	1.7780-1.7790

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8485-0.8490

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 11½-12½; seven days, 11⅝-11⅞; one month, 11⅝-11⅞; three months, 11¹³/₁₆-12¹/₁₆; six months, 12³/₁₆-12⁷/₁₆.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $409.75 (an ounce); pm, $409.50 close, $408.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $422-424 (£218-219).
Sovereigns (new): $100-101 (£51.5-52).

Business News
THE TIMES Friday November 27 1981

Forecast of another five bleak years

By David Blake, Economics Editor

Britain faces another five years of stagnation and unemployment unless the Government changes its economic policies, according to the National Institute of Economic and Social Research.

The Institute, Britain's leading exponent of Keynesian thinking in economics, calls for reflation to end the deficient demand which has caused recession and which it thinks will keep unemployment rising steadily by 100,000 a year until 1986 unless action is taken.

In a five-year forecast of the British economy, the Institute paints a gloomy picture of growth of only 1½ per cent a year between now and 1986 and adult unemployment rising to 3.6 million.

The country's total output would not get back to the levels of 1979 until 1986, and living standards would show hardly any rise. Inflation is expected to stick obstinately at around 8 per cent in spite of the continued depression.

The Institute accepts the claim by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, that the fall in activity has ended. But it expects output next year to be only 0.6 per cent higher than its level in 1981 and the fastest growth forecast over the next five years is 2.1 per cent in 1984, after which the economy starts to slow down again.

The forecasts are drawn up on an assumption about future government policies which may be too restrictive.

In particular, it assumes that public spending next year will be held to the limits announced in the White Paper published in the spring, even though the Cabinet yesterday agreed to allow it to be higher. It also assumes that the world outlook over the next five years will be gloomy.

Public borrowing is assumed to be brought down sharply, falling to only £2,000m by 1986 and growth in the money supply is brought down to 6½ per cent by 1986.

The Institute expects there will be big and rising balance of payments surpluses as a result of this policy, with a current account surplus of £4,500m next year and an average surplus of £11,700m a year between 1984 and 1986.

The review rejects claims by defenders of the Government that the current unemployment level is caused by structural problems or by workers pricing themselves out of a job.

It says there is also no evidence to suggest that unemployment is caused largely by increases in social security benefits reducing the incentive to work.

The review raises the possibility of a more formal incomes policy to reduce inflation, but comes out firmly in favour of reflation in any event.

World growth, page 20

UEI in £53.3m electronics bid

By Simon Proctor

A publicly-quoted group for a number of high technology companies, United Engineering Industries, yesterday made a £53.3m agreed bid for Micro Consultants, a privately-run electronics concern which has grown rapidly in the past four years.

The deal, which is being effected through the issue of 26 million new UEI shares, will double the size of UEI. The shares of UEI were suspended late yesterday on the stock market at 205p. The company has electronics interests and owns Cosworth the motor racing engine and components company.

Micro Consultants, founded 14 years ago by Peter Michael and Robert Graves, is based at Newbury, Berkshire and Kenley, Surrey. It has two subsidiaries, both private companies, based in California. The whole group employs about 500 people.

It is almost wholly-owned by Mr Michael, 43, and Mr Graves, 51, who will own 18.7 million under the deal.

Micro Consultants originally designed and manufactured computer interfaces and military equipment such as radar systems. It has since expanded into turnkey computer systems for customers like British Steel and Imperial Chemical Industries where computers are used for controlling production. It develops and markets television broadcast equipment through a subsidiary called Quantel.

The assets of Micro Consultants were £7.4m at the end of June and pretax profits for the group, including the American companies, were £3.36m. Profits before tax since 1977 of Micro Consultants United Kingdom operations alone grew from £526,000 to £2.9m by last June.

UEI made pretax profits of £3.2m in the year to last January. It employs about 1,000 people.

The relatively high price being paid by UEI for Micro Consultants reflects its involvement in high technology and rapid growth. Mr Michael, who owns 77 per cent of Micro Consultants, will become vice-chairman and join managing director of UEI.

Price of petrol likely to stabilize

By Rupert Morris

Petrol prices are unlikely to rise by very much next year, Mr David Simon, BP Oil's director of marketing, hinted yesterday.

"I would not accept to see the same volatility in prices over the next year", said Mr Simon. He also revealed that BP was now operating at a profit on its petrol sales in spite of a failed attempt earlier this month to put prices up for the seventh time this year.

BP and the other big oil companies raised pump prices two weeks ago by up to 4p a gallon to about £1.72. But fierce competition persuaded BP to reintroduce discount to retailers of between 1.5p and 2p a gallon. The average price of a gallon of four-star was now about £1.69p, he said.

This price hike was followed by a steep rise in the value of the pound, from about $1.83 to $1.90, which instantly put most oil companies, including BP, back into profit on petrol sales.

"What has happened at the pumps has been a real decrease in price—good news for the consumer and bad news for our pricing strategy."

If the pound were to go much above $1.90 further cuts in pump prices could follow, he said. A one cent variation in the exchange rate affects the price of a gallon of petrol by 0.2p.

After half-year losses of £33m, British Petroleum is expected to show a substantial loss for 1981, but it hopes to be back in the black in 1982.

One reason for optimism is the Saudi Arabians' success is unifying the other members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) roun dthe $34 a barrel crude price, and the promise to freeze prices until the end of 1982.

Chris Gregory



Harvey-Jones: winner of race for ICI chair.

Harvey-Jones to lead ICI

By Ronald Pullen

Mr John Harvey-Jones will be the next chairman of Imperial Chemical Industries, Britain's largest industrial group. He succeeds Sir Maurice Hodgson, who retires after four years at the end of the financial year.

Mr Harvey-Jones, 57, is one of ICI's three deputy chairmen and has been closely involved in the restructuring of the group, particularly the running-down of the loss-making fibres division over the last two years. ICI has been hard hit by the recession, high interest rates and the strength of sterling, which culminated in more than halved profits in 1980 and its first dividend cut in 40 years.

However in the race for ICI's chairmanship, one of the most important and influential jobs in British industry, Mr Harvey-Jones has been regarded as the outsider, with one of the other two deputy chairmen, Mr Bill Duncan and Mr Bob Haslam, considered to be the likely successor to the £135,000-a-year post.

Many felt that Mr Harvey-Jones was both too outspoken and too radical in his approach to the group's problems to suit ICI's style of management. But with many difficult decisions still to be taken, the ICI board has clearly decided that this is the time for the decisive leadership style.

Business Diary, page 21

£20m fight back from Courtaulds

By Margareta Pagano

Courtaulds, the country's biggest textiles company and a leading exporter, yesterday announced a boost in pretax profits to £20.5m in the six months to September compared with £2.8m last time.

This follows one of the company's worst trading periods when last year it reported a net loss of £114m and revealed it had cut its workforce by more than 20,000 employees in 18 months.

The results came at the top end of market forecasts which, together with a return to a half-time dividend of 1.42p gross, saw the group's shares pick up 3p to 69p. Profits after tax are £9.8m against a loss of £2.4m.

The improvement in the United Kingdom trading profit which rose to £1.1m against losses of £1.6m results from the group's action to close loss-making units.

Prices were virtually unchanged and the small gains in higher margins came from better productivity. Group sales in the period increased only marginally to £860.5m against £857.9m. his reflects a drop in turnover to United Kingdom customers to £388.8m compared with £414m, due entirely to a decline in volume. Sales overseas rose by £65m to £318m helped by the fall in sterling's value but exports fell significantly to £189m compared with £218m.

Courtauld's subsidiary, International Paints, increased its pretax profits by £4.7m to £16.5m on sales of £171m and a further improvement is expected over the second half of last year. The gross diivdend is lifted more than doubled to 2.85p.

(Financial Editor, page 21.)

Pledge on control of BNOC

By Edward Townsend

Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, gave a clear indication last night that control of the state-owned British National Oil Corporation, in which shares are to be offered to the private sector, would remain in British hands.

He emphasized the Government's view that there was no justification in concern that the BNOC's oil producing business, once it becomes privatized, could be controlled by foreign interests.

"Our intention is to set up a British oil company and our aim will be to achieve a wide spread of ownership among the public. Furthermore, I have given an undertaking that the articles of association of the company in which shares are to be sold will contain safeguards against unacceptable changes in control."

Mr Lawson, addressing the London Committee of the Scottish Chartered Accountants, did not specify what he would regard as unacceptable, but he stressed that the North Sea oil fields "are British and will remain British".

He added: "All oil from the North Sea must continue to be landed in the United Kingdom unless I permit otherwise. Secondly, the trading arm of the BNOC will remain wholly owned by the Government and through this the right under participation agreements to buy up to 51 per cent of all oil produced in the North Sea will continue unimpaired."

Mr Lawson said the Government's purpose in pursuing its oil privatization proposals was not to diminish the benefits of North Sea oil to the British people, but to enhance them.

Price chaos on the tin market

London's tin market was thrown into disarray yesterday by heavy buying of spot metal which entirely eliminated the previous day's £263 premium for three-month tin. Spot and three-month tin ended the day at £8,557.50 a tonne, a rise of £220 for spot and a fall of £93 for three-month tin.

The price of three-month tin collapsed in just 10 minutes of hectic morning trading. Market sources said that the same fund which spent more than £100m during the summer pushing up the tin price to some £200 above what consumers consider to be a fair price was behind the purchases of spot metal.

But the motives of the fund, which is believed to be acting in the interests of tin producers led by Malaysia, baffled many traders. One theory was that in recent weeks the contango—the premium of forward over spot positions—has widened. By purchasing spot tin the holders of long forward positions were covering their risks.

The operation could have developed into a classic squeeze, with the fund cornering spot tin, thereby invoking intervention by the London Metal Exchange authorities. This was avoided by changing tack in the afternoon and buying forward tin again.

One experienced commodity trader said: "It was very expertly manouevered by the house behind the operation." It was pointed out that if the buyers of tin, who purchased 8,000tonnes on Tuesday alone, could force up the price every three months they eleminated the cost of carying forward contracts.

French industry chief will quit over nationalization

From Michael Parrott, Paris, Nov 26

One of the captains of French industry is to give up the chairmanship of his company the moment it is nationalized.

M Ambroise Roux, aged 60, chairman of the powerful conglomerate Compagnie Générale d'Electricité (CGE) is the first head of a group to be nationalized to announce his intention of leaving. "My attachment to the spirit of capitalism and free economy have dictated my decision", he told the company's board.

Since he became chairman of CGE in 1970, he has almost symbolized the power of the French business establishment. On particularly good terms with President Georges Pompidou, he remained a force to be reckoned with under M Pompidou's successor, M Valery Giscard d'Estaing. But since the socialists came to power he has not concealed his strong opposition to their nationalization programme.

M Roux will be remembered for his political manoeuvring in the industrial field after his company lost its monopoly in the telephone business to Thomson-Brandt. The group moved into the main frame computer business (CII-Honeywell Bull) only to pull out again and concentrate on minicomputers and office automation equipment.

After failing to win a stake in the nuclear reactor business, it secured the monopoly of nuclear turbine orders for the subsidiary Alsthom Atlantique.



Roux: A force to be reckoned with.

Lloyd's rift widens after committee member resigns

By Peter Wilson-Smith

The latest row at Lloyd's, the London insurance market, after the resignation of Mr Robert Kiln from the ruling committee, looks certain to precipitate the first by-election to elect a new committee member. It will also add to the divisions at Lloyd's which has been dogged by controversy in recent years over the question of self-regulation and the role of the committee.

Mr Ian Posgate, the outspoken underwriter who has championed the "divestment" clause in the Lloyd's Bill now before Parliament, and narrowly failed to win election to the committee earlier this month, has confirmed he will stand, although he was sure he would not be elected.

Mr Kiln, one of the most senior members of the committee, resigned because he was not elected a deputy chairman as he had expected.

He said yesterday that he was disappointed and felt let down and agreed that it was correct to say that he had been "knifed in the back." Mr Kiln was adamant that he had been given no formal undertaking and no promises were broken, but he stood for a third term of office, he said, on the basis of certain expectations and it only became clear this week that none were likely to be fulfilled.

"The way in which this has been done leads me to feel that all is not well in the way the committee of Lloyd's conducts its affairs. There have been other occasions when similar shenanigans have raised my doubts," Mr Kiln said yesterday.



Kiln: "Knifed in the back."

Japan agrees to limit car exports for another year

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Japan's motor industry has agreed to another year of voluntary restraint on the British market which should limit its share of car and commercial vehicle sales to about 11 per cent.

The agreement was reached during three days of talks between leaders of the two countries' industries, and while it will be welcomed by the Government it could generate further protests from British-owned importing companies. They have complained bitterly in recent years that there has been unfair discrimination against Japanese vehicles.

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders clearly regard the outcome as successful, particularly in relation to imports of Japanese vans, which have risen considerably this year.

In the first 10 months, Japanese light commercial vehicle sales totalled 27,365 and gained 19 per cent of the market compared with 22,510 (12.8 per cent) in the same period of last year.

Since July, however, when the SMMT made strong representations to the Japanese, van shipments to Britain have fallen significantly. Japan has agreed to further action to prevent peaks in shipments next year. Mr Geoffrey Moore, the SMMT president, said that stocks of Japanese vans had been reduced substantially in recent months and as a result of the talks he did not expect a sales boom.

The SMMT presented the Japanese Automobile Manufacturers' Association, led by Mr Takashi Ishihara the president, with a new set of forecasts for the United Kingdom market for 1982. These expect a rise in car sales from 1.48 million this year to between 1.52 million and 1.55 million and in light vehicles sales from 165,000 this year to 170,000-175,000.

☐ Japan's car production is likely to reach 11.18 million this year, which means it will remain the world's biggest car producer.

Stock Markets

FT Index 526.1 up 0.1
FT Gilts 64.36 down 0.34
FT All Share 310.80 up 0.39
Bargains 17,901

Sterling

$ 1.9395 up 85 poins
Index 91.3 up 0.1

Dollar

Index 105.6 unchanged
DM 2.2242 down 40 pts

Gold

$ 409.50 down 75 cents

Money

3 mth sterling 13⅞-14⅛
3 mth Euro $ 11⅞-12⅛
6 mth Euro $ 12⅛-12⅜

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Amstrad	12p to 240p
Berkeley Exp	10p to 393p
Canning W.	5p to 54p
Grindlays Hldgs	13p to 208p
Int Paint	16p to 203p
Martin RP	10p to 305p
Mount Lyall	10p to 290p
Peko Wallsend	29p to 345p
Newman Tonks	5p to 60p
Rio Tinto Zinc	15p to 469p
Standard Chart	12p to 649p
Tootal	2½p to 29p
Tunnel 'B'	10p to 515p
Uts Scientific	10p to 498p
TW Ward	8p to 196p

Falls

Atlantic Resc	10p to 220p
BAT Ind	7p to 341p
Carless Capel	5p to 145p
Gt Portland	6p to 198p
Harrison Cros	13p to 762p
Heath CE	10p to 298p
Johnson Matt	10p to 281p
Malaysian Tin	4p to 96p
Mercantile Hse	15p to 430p
Pearl	8p to 424p
Plessey	5p to 340p
Polly Peck	5p to 350p
Reed Exec	2p to 28p
Rothmans Int 'B'	4p to 77½p
Shell Trans	4p to 396p

341 jobs to go at GKN

GKN-Sankey, the engineering company, is to make another 341 employees redundant at its plant in Telford, Shropshire, where unemployment is running at 21 per cent.

Hopes for increased sales in 1982 have been dashed by the latest forecasts, and in spite of introducing the Government's temporary short-time working scheme in July the company said it now had no option but to make 290 manual and 61 staff employees redundant.

New offer at Robb Caledon

British Shipbuilders has made a new proposal to try to settle the Robb Caledon yard sit-in, according to a union leader. About 90 men have been occupying the Dundee shipyard for six weeks since the corporation closed it.

Mr Jim Murray, leader of the Boilermakers Society, said: "We received an offer from BS last night on what they anticipate might settle the issue."

Hongkong bank opens books

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, whose bid for the Royal Bank of Scotland is being studied by the Monopolies Commission with the rival bid from Standard Chartered, has said it will open its books for inspection by the United Kingdom authorities. In a booklet being circulated to all government ministers, MPs and Scottish institutions, the Hongkong bank argues the logic of its bid and seeks to allay objections of the Bank of England.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Ward fights off RTZ with improved profits

Thomas W. Ward, the Sheffield cement group which is the subject of a £91m takeover bid from Rio Tinto-Zinc brought forward publication of improved full year results in an attempt to discourage shareholders from selling in the market to the mining group. Pre-tax profits in the year to September 30 rose 15.3 pe rcent to £18.04m.

RTZ may buy further Ward shares today now that the seven day cooling off period required by the new takeover rules after dawn raids, has elapsed. RTZ which controls 14.9 per cent of Ward after a raid last week may not however buy shares at more than its offer price of 190p.

Yesterday the shares of all three companies rose sharply because of rumours that Tunnel Holdings, in which Ward has 42 per cent stake and for which RTZ is prepared to make a full bid, would dawn raid Ward.

There was also speculation that RTZ itself might be the target of a similar operation by a oli company.

Ward shares closed at 196p, up 8p on the previous day. Tunnel rose 10p to 515p and RTZ 15p to 469p.

Shell, mentioned as a possible bidder for RTZ, fell 4p to 396p.

Mr Peter Frost, Ward's chairman, says that RTZ's bid is inadequate in regard to the company's expected future performance and that it undervalues Ward's stake in Tunnel.

EEC directive attacked

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, told a Conservative conference in London yesterday that the European Community directive on worker participation in companies was being opposed by the Government because it did not recognize the differences which existed in labour relations in the United Kingdom compared with some European countries.

"I doubt if we will for a long time yet resolve the differences between the Napoleonic tradition and the interventionist philosophy of some member states and the free market attitudes of others," he said.

This became particularly difficult when directives were suggested calling for the regulation of matters which were resolved here by independent bargaining, he added.

☐ Five customers of Paribas, the biggest private bank in France which faces nationalization, have been charged with breaking currency regulations by sending capital abroad illegally.

TODAY

October figures (final) for car and commercial vehicle production. Company results: Hallam Group, Howard Tenens Services and Rediffusion.

Selling its sole

The soaring price of Dover sole is the main cause of the drop in profits of Wheeler's Restaurants. This time last year it cost £1.90 a pound at Billingsgate. Today, at £2.60, Wheeler's is finding it hard to push the full increase on to a dwindling number of customers and profits for the six months to October 2 last dropped 27 per cent to £172,943.

During that time, Wheeler's sold fish worth about £3m, virtually the same as last year, but its 14 restaurants had more empty seats, and with more than half its customers ordering sole as a main course, made less profit.

In the hope that sole will be cheaper soon, Wheeler's is paying an unchanged gross half time dividend of 2.2142p a share.

French nuclear programme

The French Government has adopted virtually the same nuclear programme for 1982 and 1983—after six months of vacillation—as that laid down by its predecessors. Work will start on only six plants instead of the nine originally planned, but they will be built on the same sites at Chinon 4, Cattenom 3, Chooz 1, Golfech 1, Nogent 2 and Penly 1.

The plants to be dropped are Cattenom 4, Chooz 2 and Goldfech 2, reducing the total capacity on which work is to be started to 7,400 megawatts from 11,300.

Under the Socialist plan presented at the beginning of this year, work was to have been suspended on five of these sites

Ferry fares to rise

Channel ferry fares are likely to rise between 12 per cent and 25 per cent next year, signalling an end to a two-year cut-price battle among the ferry operators. Mr David Benson, marketing director of P. & O. said that off-peak tariffs were the ones where the highest increases would be seen.

Thomson Holidays and Thomas Cook, two of Britain's biggest package-holiday travel organizations, are to move from experimental trials to large-scale computerized booking of holidays at high street outlets. Thomson is spending £2m on expanding its system.

The decision marks the start of a battle among the big tour operators to eliminate delays at peak times caused by agents booking holidays by telephone.

Spending study on building

Increased public expenditure on the building of houses and other projects would give the Government best value for money among five economic options, according to a study published today. *Policies for Recovery*, examines a number of options open to the Government and their benefits to the economy. It was sponsored by the five leading building groups and undertaken by Cambridge Econometrics, economic forecasters.

The study looked at the effects of £500m being spent in turn on tax reductions, employment subsidies, expenditure expansion, and capital investment programmes in housebuilding and roads and sewers and found that it was best spent on building projects.

North Sea clean-up operation by Bayer

By Tony Samstag

Bayer AG, long blamed for polluting the Rhine, the Elbe and the North Sea, has launched a clean-up operation.

Four of the company's West German production sites have been visited by *Ends* magazine, the journal of Environmental Data Services and representative of the conservation groups Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth, to check on progress.

The company gained a certain notoriety over pollution last year when Greenpeace launched a protest over the dumping of 55,000 tonnes of acid waste into the North Sea.

Although the Dutch minister for transport and waterways had permitted the dumping, Greenpeace argued that he was acting illegally under the Oslo Convention. Quantities of lead, copper, mercury and cadmium were involved in excess of the "trace quantities" allowed.

Ends visited plants at Leverkusen, Dormagen, Elberfeld and Brunsbuettel. Leverkusen, the biggest site, comprises 100 separate plants producing about 500,000 tonnes a year of "solid, paste-like, slip-like and liquid wastes", 80 per cent of those as non-combustible solids. The magazine concludes that a complex of controlled landfill sites, incinerators and "tower biology" treatment plants gave some credence to the company's statements over polution.

Ends; Environmental Data Services report 82: November 1981. Orchard House, 14 Great Smith Street, London SW1.



The last delivery of Metros leaving Longbridge before the production line stopped

'Teabreak' strike threat to BL sales

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

The "teabreak" strike at BL's Longbridge plant, over working hours and break time, is now approaching the end of its third week and, with production of the company's best selling Metro at a standstill, is now threatening to cause further disruption to the group's recovery plans.

Some union leaders have expressed surprise at the low key approach to the dispute adopted so far by Sir Michael Edwardes, BL chairman, and other senior executives. Others have interpreted this as indicating that Sir Michael has been chastened by the strike which followed his last intervention and the company's narrow escape from closure after his threat to dismiss men on strike against his 3.8 per cent wage offer and to put the factories into liquidation.

But more pragmatic observers suggest a different reason. They believe that while he did not welcome the strike at Longbridge, Sir Michael has taken advantage of it to reduce stocks of unsold cars which would otherwise have accumulated during the traditionally depressed selling months of November and December.

This view is supported by reports from BL dealers that the strike has not affected their stock position unduly. Many of them are still advertising a number of Longbridge models including the Metro for immediate delivery.

Dealers are however worried by the effect of yet another strike on the company's image, Mr Maurice Bayliss, marketing director of the Henley group, said: "We have just had the confrontation over the wages issue and here we go again. It is all very disconcerting for the motorist who is contemplating buying BL. It is enough to stop some of them crossing the threshold of the local BP showroom."

But after the collapse on Wednesday of the latest peace talks, a more serious threat to BLs future is looming. New car sales in Britain are dominated by the two months of January and August. Motorists place their year-end orders for delivery in January to obtain the new year registration or take advantage of the August new model year registration suffix.

Last year the two months accounted for nearly 400,000 sales, or one quarter of all the cars sold during 1980.

The industry ils forecasting that next January will be one of the best on record with more than 200,000 sales. If BL is to take advantage of this it must have adequate stocks of the Metro its biggest selling model. It is looking to the Longbridge car to take between 8 and 9 per cent of the market in January market. To do that it must have at least 16,000 in its showrooms.

If the strikers return tomorrow BL will be pushed to achieve this. Metro production before the strike was nearly 4,700 a week with both assembly tracks working flat out. With Christmas holidays to be taken into account, there are olny three working weeks remaining during which only 14,00 Metros could be made.

Another problem now becoming acute is the need to meet customers' choice in colour, engine-size and trim. Dealers are already meeting customer resistance to the limited range of cars in their showrooms. One BL dealer said: "The factory should now be filling the orders for specific models for delivery in January. If we get a return to work immediately I doubt whether we shall be able to offer customers what they want without quoting unsuitable delivery times. And in a market where delivery from stock is now an everday occurrence, motorists will no longer accept this."

Slow world economic growth predicted

By Frances Williams

The industrialised world is likely to suffer sluggish economic growth and continuing high inflation and unemployment over the next five years, according to new forecasts in the November issue of the *National Institute Economic Review* published yesterday.

The institute blames continued restrictive policies to combat inflation, worsening terms of trade and, at least in the short term, the impact of high American interest rates.

It also claims that tight money policies have inhivited technical and industrial change by exacerbating pressures for greater trade protection. This will prolong recession, the institute says.

Economic growth in industrial countries is forecast to accelerate slowly from 1.3 per cent this year to 1.8 per cent in 1982, 2.8 per cent in 1983 and an average of 2.9 per cent over the three years 1983-86.

This compares with average yearly growth rates of 2.7 per cent between 1973 and 1979 and 5.0 per cent between 1967 and 1973, before the first oil price shock.

Although the institute expects Western nations to continue to make inflation their first economic priority, it predicts only a gradual decline from an average of 10½ per cent in 1981, to 9 per cent in 1982, 8 per cent in 1983 and 7 to 7½ per cent over the 1983-86 period.

"The relatively high levels of unemployment now in prospect must be expected to have some impact on wage negotiations and hence on the inflationary spiral", the review says.

The institute expects oil prices to boost inflation only slightly , although it is less sanguine on the longer term outlook than some other analysts.

It predicts that the real oil price wil fall by about 2½ per cent next year, following the recent Opec decision to freeze prices in dollar terms to the end of 1982. After that it forecasts real price rises of 4 per cent a year or so.

Trade is expected to grow more rapidly over the next few years as the world recovers from recession, particularly trade in manufactures. But trade in primary commodities (other than oil which is assumed to remain roughly constant) is likely to be depressed by slow growth in the industrial countries.

The institute foresees world trade growth rising from a depressed 1 per cent in 1981 to 4 per cent next year and in 1983 to 1986, with the possibility of 5 per cent growth in 1983. For manufactures the growth rates could be up to 1 per cent higher.

The industrial countries' collective current balance of payments deficit is forecast to more than halve this year to \$35,000m (£18,000) from \$74,000m in 1980, and to shrink by roughly the same amount in 1982 to give a deficit of only \$2,000m.

The oil producers' smaller surpluses are expected to be balanced mainly by the deficits on non-oil developing countries.

The institute is particularly critical of United States policy which it believes is likely to produce "significantly positive" real interest rates for the next few years.

This poses a new problem in international economic relations, and there are no international or national policy instruments to deal with it, the review adds. For the same reason, "there are no generally accepted limits on a country's behaviour".

IN BRIEF

EEC plea on textile imports

☐ Additional restrictions on some categories of textiles imports by the European Community are essential in order to "reflect today's realities" Mr Horst-Gunter Krenzler, EEC representative, said yesterday in the 50-nation negotiations for a renewal of the Multi Fibre Arrangement in Geneva.

He said textiles from low-cost manufacturing countries in the Third World now comprise 70 per cent of the Community's imports in this field.

Their penetration in the EEC had risen from 28.5 per cent in 1977 to 31.5 per cent in 1980. The community tabled its proposals in the form of a draft protocol of extension to the MFA.

Cheaper oil products

☐ Consumer prices for oil products sold inside the European Community dropped in mid-November. The increase in consumer prices from December 1978 to the week ending November 16 fell to 104 per cent from 106 per cent the week before.

Aluminium plant hit

☐ A complete power supply breakdown caused by Tuesday's violent North Sea storm has forced at least a two-month production halt at Norsk Hydro's Karmöy aluminium plant, Norway's leading industrial concern reported.

Technology

Locking out the computer spy

The most controversial field of academic research in the United States at the moment is cryptography — the making and breaking of codes. The National Security Agency (NSA), the agency responsible for monitoring worldwide communications for the United States Government and armed forces, is fighting hard to keep the subject under its control.

In flagrant violation of the hallowed American tradition of academic freedom, it wants to prevent scientists telling the world how to produce an unbreakable code.

Implications of the controversy this has caused stretch far beyond American academy and the electronic eavesdroppers of the NSA.

Its outcome will affect the security of the rapidly growing volume of sensitive information stored in computers and/or transmitted over the world's telecommunications networks. The question is how data can be scrambled electronically into a code which the most sophisticated criminal or commercial spy will be unable to break.

Public debate

This issue has received surprisingly little attention in Britain. Here the long public debate over computer privacy has concentrated on questions such as who should have access to data files and how to protect individuals from misuse of the information held about them.

When security has been discussed, the question has been who should be responsible for it — not the more fundamental issue of how to protect electronic data.

However, the increasing incidence of computer crime may soon force British computer users to face up to the challenge of cryptography as seriously as their American counterparts. There are no reliable statistics for computer fraud and theft of unauthorized access to electronic data, because such crimes frequently go unreported, if not undetected.

Corporate victims of computer crime are notoriously unwilling to reveal themselves, for fear of inflaming their customers' suspicions of computers. Worldwide losses from computer related crime could exceed £1,000m a year, according to one estimate.

Last month a group of Lloyds's underwriters announced a new insurance scheme to protect financial institutions against computer and telecommunications fraud. They expect to receive at least £5m in premiums within a year.

Allegations

At the moment the only internationally accepted standard for electronic coding is the Data Encryption Standard (DES), developed in the United States by IBM and published by the National Bureau of Standards in 1977. Unfortunately, the reputation of DES, as it is known in the trade, has been tainted by the fact that the National Security Agency was involved behind the scenes in its establishment.

There have been frequent allegations — never confirmed, never refuted — that the NSA persuaded IBM to make DES less secure than the corporation originally wanted, so that the agency, own computers could decypher the messages of any of anyone using the standard.

At the heart of DES is the published "algorithm," an extremely complicated series of 16 mathematical operations written into the electronic hardware of the of the encryption device. They scramble data into code and back again, according to a secret key, known only to the sender and receiver

The key is a mathematical variable with 56 "bits" (binary digits). The system is comparable to combination lock of which the overall structure (the algorithm" is public knowledge. Only the user knows the correct combination of numbers (key) to open it.

American critics of DES have pointed out two distinct ways in which it might be vulnerable to code breakers. First, they could attack it by brute force — trying every combination of 56 digits until they found the correct key. According to one estimate, a special electronic chip could be built to try out a million combinations a second.

If one million such chips were run together, they could complete the search in a day. A code breaking computer with that power would probably cost at least £10m today, but as the price of chips tumbles, it could become a realistic proposition in the future.

IBM had originally proposed a 128-bit key, which really would be unbreakable by brute force for the foreseeable future, but the NSA reportedly made sure that DES ended up with only 56 bits.

The second, more worrying, possibility is that the DES algorithm contains an inherent mathematical weakness — perhaps inserted deliberately by the NSA — which code breakers could use to find the key without having to try all combinations. However, American university researchers have spent years trying to find such a flaw in the algorithm without success.

Built-in flaw

Mr Bob Germon, products manager of Racal-Milgo, whose company launched a new DES-based data encryption device in Britain last week, says he does not know whether the American authorities have deliberately built a flaw into the algorithm.

But he adds: "There's a general underlying feeling that the National Bureau of Standards has something up its sleeve". That need not worry the general commercial users for whom Racal's Datacryptor II is designed, according to Mr Germon.

Recently, however, American university researchers have proposed novel approaches to cryptography which seem to offer far greater security than DES, at less cost. One is the so-called public key approach, in which the sender can encode a message but not decypher it, while the receiver can decypher but not encode.

The technique is based on abstruce mathematical processes which are easy to perform in one direction and almost impossible to reverse. For example, multiplying two large numbers to make a third number is simple, but the original factors cannot readily be obtained from their product.

The NSA has responded to this sort of work with a mixture of blandishments (including promises of generous research grants if the recipient co-operates with the agency) and threats and harassment (attempts to slap on secrecy orders).

Clive Cookson

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Courtaulds still facing a long haul

The market has been shooting in the dark with attempts to forecast Courtaulds' profitability this year after last year's net loss of £114m. In the event, pre-tax profits of £20.5m in the six months to September, compared with £2.3m last time, was at the top end of expectations.

But, tempting as it may be to see Courtaulds on the road to progressive recovery, the fact is that UK and European demand has not significantly changed over the last year. In the UK, then, it is largely a tale of cost saving benefits from the radical surgery and rationalization of the past couple of years. Although there is a trading profit of £1.1m against a loss of £1.6m last year, the fabric division remains in loss and a sales figure of £388m includes a 12 per cent volume fall.

The fibres and yarns division, although still loss-making should be profitable by the year end and further increases in profits from consumer products are expected despite the fierce price-cutting in the clothing retailing trade. Overseas profits have again risen, by £5m to £28m, helped by higher earnings again from South Africa, and a £2.5m on exchange rate gains. International Paints has boosted its pre-tax profits to £16.5m and will also improve over last year's second half.

Given that seasonal factors do not generally have that much effect, Courtaulds could make about £45m in the full year assuming there is no great change in sterling value. The return to a 1p net dividend came as some surprise, but on this basis the full year dividend could be 2.5p where, at yesterday's 69p share price, the yield would be 5.1 per cent.

Dawn raids

Longer cool-off period needed

Today, the working committee of the Council for the Securities Industry starts to reexamine its rules on "dawn raids" in time for full Council approval in January. The seven day cooling-off period after a dawn raid formulated as an interim measure in September is the main topic on the agenda along with the more complex question of irrevocable acceptances to a bid.

On the first issue, the committee should extend the breathing space. A week is insufficient time to bring a full board together to discuss the bid, inform shareholders and employees and prepare a detailed defence. If the price of a longer-time span is the development of an arbitrage market with investors selling out to professionals seeking a quick gain, then this must be the price payable for a free market in shares.

Much more important, is the recognition that there should not be a totally unfettered market in the purchase and sale of companies. The interests of all shareholders, employees and maybe an important industrial sector, must take priority over the short-term demands of the share price. By extending the cool-off period, the Council would only be formally enshrining the spirit of the Takeover Code and help restore the image of the City which has been tarnished by recent market operations.

Thomas W. Ward

Attempted defence

Thomas Ward hurried forward its latest full year figures to encourage its shareholders to reject RTZ's takeover bid. Profits at the pretax level show an increase of 15 per cent to £18m, but trading profits are down from £12.4m to £10.2m and sales are 11 per cent lower at £232m.

Peter Frost, the chairman, stresses that the underlying trend in the group's non-cement side, is one of improvement however, with this year's second half being much better than last year's second half. Hence the 20 per cent increase in the dividend.

On the basis of these latest figures, RTZ's bid is eight times earnings per share, but that still looks generous in the circumstances. Tunnel, on the other hand, has reported a 39 per cent increase in sales and a 16 per cent increase in profits which has a better look of quality about it. This adds credence to arguments that Tunnel may be RTZ's ultimate target and the real horse trading has yet to begin.

Anglo American

A slowdown in growth

After several very good years riding on the back of the gold price, Anglo American seems to be slowing down. True, the first six months pretax profits are R42.4m higher at R334m, but most of the increase came from Amcoal rather than gold mine dividends. Moreover, Anglo owns 51 per cent of Amcoal whose income is taxed, unlike the mine dividends. As a result, the tax charge has soared from R12.6m to R45.4m, leaving after-tax profits at R289m compared with R279m.

Amcoal also brings with it the obligation to the other 49 per cent of its shareholders. Outside shareholders have absorbed R50.9m against R16.2m last year, so that after including R152m (almost unchanged) as the share of retained profits from associated companies, attributable profits are down from R418m to R387m. Retained profits from associations are in fact taken to reserve, so earnings per share excluding retained profits fell from 115 cents to 104 cents.

Faced with this combination, shareholders might be better off investing directly in gold mines rather than going through Anglo, whose profits are likely to suffer further from a weak diamond market. For the first time since 1976 Anglo could be heading for a maintained dividend. The first half was held at 35 cents and last years full payout was 110 cents. But the shares rose 4p to 683p, reflecting some relief that the figures were not worse and that earnings per share and dividend cover have not been too diluted by the larger number of shares in issue.

● *Unilever's long-awaited proposals for paying different dividends to shareholders in The Netherlands and the United Kingdom are to go for shareholder approval at meetings of Unilever PLC, the UK end, and of Unilever NV, the Dutch side, on December 18. They affect a fundamental aspect of Unilver's constitution known as the Equalisation Agreement. The agreement was designed years ago to allow for equal treatment of the shareholders of the two arms of the company when it came to paying dividends. But in recent years, and especially earlier this year, it has been very difficult to operate equitably given sharp exchange rate movements, different rates of inflation in the two counties and the presence or absence of divedend restraint in one or other of the states. The proposed changes are such that the boards of both companies will have the power to declare differential dividends and establish equalisation and/or deferred dividend reserves should circumstances dictate. However, such a course of action, as the document makes clear, will only be used in extreme circumstances and would be rare.*



Anthony Burgess (above) and his "Earthly Powers" which has given publishers Penguin Books their first taste of television promotion.



The selling of Anthony Burgess

Anthony Burgess is a shy man, easily embarrassed by publicity. It is an interesting irony then that he — or rather his latest work *Earthly Powers* — should be chosen by Penguin Books for its first paperback launch in this country by television advertising.

Burgess is in Monaco, well outside ITV's transmission area, so has not seen the commercial. He seemed more than a little relieved to be told that the advertisement — a visually arresting sequence in which a mysterious crucified wooden totem figure dissolves in fire to become a skull — was cleverly done.

He may shrink from publicity, but does not revile it. Indeed, he has a healthy pounds, shillings and pence approach towards *its* powers.

"One has to judge it in terms of sales and whether it sells by the screen. I do think it's an excellent idea and a break for publishers and books," he says.

"I hear that sales are not doing too badly . . ."

And sales are doing rather well. Last week's list of top 10 best sellers saw *Earthly Powers* rise to number eight from tenth position. Indications are that the novel is about to sell out it's first print run of 80,000 and could reach the 100,000 mark by Christmas.

Television air time is not cheap and fine literature often sinks without trace, in commercial terms, so Penguin was taking a risk.

But it appears to have demonstrated that an imaginative visual image can be extremely cost-effective without in any way vulgarizing the book's content.

Penguin's strategy, says Mr James Lake, head of promotions, was for a simple, low-cost commercial which he calls a toe-in-the-water experiment.

The advertising budget for *Earthly Powers* was £15,000. Mr Lake is reluctant to say how much it cost to produce the advertisement (which was shown eight times in all) but television experts consider that production costs must have been between £5,000 and £6,000. The cost of air-time for the late Sunday time-band which was used, is £1,870 for 30 seconds and £935 for 10 seconds.

This is a great deal of money but cheap for an advertisement in a medium which wields so much power and could open up an area for the promotion of "high-brow" books, particularly paperbacks.

Key to the Penguin campaign is the way it was aimed at a highly selective audience. Slotted between breaks of LWT's *The South Bank Show*, the commercial was directed at those AB (the television term for the top social economic grouping) viewers who stay up on Sunday evening for their weekly cultural diet.

But, in a shrewd move, it also went for the C1 and C2 (both middle range social groupings) viewers by showing the first commercial with ITV's light comedy *A Fine Romance*, knowing some viewers would switch off before *The South Bank Show*.

The South Bank Show was chosen to keep it all as simple as possible, says Mr John Miell, sales executive in LWT's business development programme, who helped to create the commercial.

Estimates so far from the Broadcasters Audience Research Board, (BARB), for the three Sunday's in November, give the show a rating of 23 which means an audience span of a million homes. This could be cut in half as some of those AB viewers — among them the important book sellers — tuck into bed, half way through the show.

Even taking out the early-to-bed brigade, this is still a big potential readership. But are they the kind of people who will read the book?

Mr Burgess says that after 20 years he is still not sure who his audience is.

"Ultimately, I guess, it must be people like me who use the same vocabulary, share the same interests and the same view of life." Has Penguin found those people?

Mr Lake seems to think it has. The book was only launched on the last Thursday of October and the commercial shown on the first four Sundays of November. So to have nearly exhausted the print run is good going.

It is difficult to determine how much is due to the television commercial, but judging by the figures he has received from the book trade Mr Lake believes the gamble has paid off.

With the gross profit margins on paperbacks estimated at about 30 per cent, Penguin has certainly more than covered the costs of taking the television gamble.

Keeping costs down was paramount. This is why LWT's commercial production unit was used. Penguin got five hours shooting — during which time they set fire to no less than 18 plaster masks to get the required effect. That filming was edited down to two advertisements — one a 10-second slot taken from the original 30-second version.

To keep the budget down, Mr Lake even refrained from having stills taken. They would have cost £200.

He is enthusiastic about the possibilities ahead. "This was to test the ground and learn how to use television language. Our real aim is Channel Four. This will have the similar upmarket BBC2 viewers which will be ideal". He is working with Penguin's advertising agency, Duncan Ongley Associates, on possible follow ups with new books in January and February.

Ongley is not new to TV adverising. The agency handled Corgi books and sold the successful *Mallen* series book by an advertisement on Southern Television.

"We are now anlysing the results and are very keen on the overall concept," says Mr Anthony Ongley. "Channel Four should provide publishers with cheaper air time at high ratings. We are working on new ideas now."

Penguin's entire marketing strategy has changed over the last few years. Marketing expenditure, including advertising, is probably the same as it was three years ago at about 10 per cent of operating costs or about £1m a year. But it has a different emphasis and direction. Part of this is a complete revision of Penguin's Classics series and the English Library collection with the aim of making it the best in the world. Heady stuff — but with the probably the largest back list of paperbacks in the world (some 4,000 titles) Penguin has room to move.

Other changes have included use of the so-called "supersites" for poster advertisements. A huge poster for Robert Elegant's *Manchu* is watching passers-by in Cromwell Road, and other sites in the West End are being considered.

> ' I can think of many novels which could easily be harmed by vulgar advertising. But at the same time I could imagine Shakespeare could be vulgarly, but successfully advertised '

This more aggressive policy was laid down by Mr Peter Mayer, the American brought in as chief executive three years ago.

Penguin's finances, like those of most publishers, have suffered ups and downs in the recession. Last year the company returned to a profit of £242,000 compared with a loss of £381,000 in 1979.

The first-half traditionally shows losses but in the first-half this year the group reduced the loss to £573,000 against £1.6m last year of sales of £19.9m.

It is doubtful whether television will provide the boost for book sales as it does for Nescafe or Wheetabix, but it does offer plenty of scope for a range of literature which has never been commercially aired.

Children's books could be simply advertised — so too could non-fiction popular works like David Attenborough's.

Would authors see a threat in glamorous commercials? This was Mr Burgess's only qualification.

"If advertisers forced writers to fit their content, style and image to what they want to advertise, I can think of many novels which could easily be harmed by vulgar advertising. But at the same time I could imagine Shakespeare could be vulgarly, but successfully advertised."

Mr Burgess says he is fed up with writing straightforward books. He wondered, with a chuckle, how his publishers and the commercial people would handle his next, more experimental novel, which involves the life of Sigmund Freud combined with Leon Trotsky's brief stay in New York.

Margareta Pagano

Business Diary: New catalyst at ICI

Imperial Chemical Industries has thrown caution to the wind in electing John Harvey-Jones as chairman in succession to Sir Maurice Hodgson.

Given the way he speaks his mind both inside and outside the group's Millbank headquarters you could hardly call him the dark horse in the race between the three deputy chairman which has been running for some months.

Nevertheless, Harvey-Jones was generally reckoned to be the outsider. For one thing, from his slightly wild hair style tohis rather unconventional way of doing things, he does not fit the Civil Service mould from which ICI likes to choose its top brass. More importantly, he is well-known for the radical solutions he favours for ICI's problems in the 1980s, solutions for which ICI's committee-style of decision taking is not best suited.

But the ICI board, where Hodgson and Hawker Siddeley chief Sir Arnold Hall are thought to have been the decisive voices, has dicided that Harvey-Jones is the right man to steer ICI through the difficult waters ahead.

Of the other two runners, Bill Duncan would have been the easiest choice but he was passed over last time in favour of Sir Maurice, and Bob Haslam, the third deputy chairman, could be said to lack the dicisive leadership qualities that Harvey-Jones has shown recently in dealing with the problems of the fibres and petrochemical and plastics divisions with which he has been most closely associated.

Whatever feathers the appointment will ruffle inside ICI, it was quickly welcomed outside. Many City people felt Harvey-Jones would be just the sort of chairman who could be a catalyst for change. Even within ICI he is widely regarded as the most approachable of the top directors and among divisional chairman he has been like a breath of fresh air for the way he says what he thinks.



New top man Harvey-Jones (top left) takes over in April from Sir Maurice Hogson (top right). Duncan (bottom left) and Haslam fell at the last fence.

Many of the divisional heads have felt for some time that what ICI lacks is tough leadership and the courage to take difficult decisions, and that for too long it has relied on its manufacturing strengths at the expense of developing the market skills its European and American competitors have capitalized on.

Harvey-Jones has followed an unconventional path to the top. But he has moved up through the ranks, by ICI standards, at lightning pace. Born in 1924 and educated at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, he served in the Navy for almost 20 years with stints in submarines and then naval intelligence.

He joined ICI in 1956 and for several years was involved in work study in London and Teeside. His road to the top started in 1967 when he became a director of the heavy organic chemicals division (now the petrochemicals and plastics division), becoming chairman three years later. He joined the ICI main board in 1973, holding various appointments including the American operation, and became one of the three deputy chairmen in 1978.

For the last couple of years Harvey-Jones has been closely associated with the group restructuring Sir Maurice has been pushing through, and in particular the plant closures on the loss-making fibres side. Here he has been credited with taking harsh decisions on plant closures rather more speedily than is usually the case in ICI.

He is also thought ot have been one of the directors who pushed hard for the decision to cut the group's dividend for the first time in 40 years in 1980.

Harvey-Jones is keeping his head down before taking up the £135,000 a year post next April. But it is already fairly clear which directions he plans to develop in his four years as chairman. He is not happy with the top heavy structure at Millbank and further decentralization to the divisions is expected to be one of his first priorities.

Sir Maurice has started the ball rolling in cutting back capacity in low value added areas. ICI has bitten the bullet on fibres and many believe Harvey-Jones wil move in on the plastics and petrochemical division where there have been heavy redundancies already.

The corollary of this is that, as Dow Chemical has so successfully done, ICI may move further away from bulk chemicals into specialist areas. There is also the feeling within Millbank that under Harvey-Jones ICI may spread its geographical wings away from its dependence on the UK and exporting where it is at the mercy of currency swings.

Ronald Pullen

Redland holds pay out after fall

Redland, the building materials group, has not done as well as British Plaster Board, which had fat to lose, or Blue Circle with its big foreign profits helped by a cheaper pound. But Redland's range of roof tiles, concrete pipes, clay bricks, gravel, and ready-mixed concrete was resilient enough to produce pretax profits of £21m against £23m on sales up from £249.5m to £273.6m in the 26 weeks to September 26. The interim dividend is again 3.81p a share gross.

The shares duly rose 8p to 168p yesterday where the yield is 10.5 per cent.

Apart from the building recession at home. Redland coped with an expected downturn at its key foreign subsidiary, the West German Braas & Co., the sale of Redland Purle and a slump in housing and renovation in the United States. Higher prices helped, but the latest profits and loss account was bolstered in other ways.

The Redland Purle departure took annual profits of £2m pretax away with it in return for £20m cash, but it also helped to lower depreciation from— £11.06m to £9.7m. Profits from land sales rose from £660,000 to £1.97m. Interest charges came down from £3.5m to £3.6m, again assisted by the Purle sale.

Redland has done some reorganizing. It ran down and closed the lossmaking Concrete Pipe Division in Englan. and sold at a loss its interests in a subsidiary and an associate. But this streamlining is treated as an extraordinary item of £3.61m, and taken below the line.

Mr Colin Corness, chairman, and his colleagues attack the recent report of the Monopolies Commission on the group's main product, concrete roof tiles. With Marley, the group has four fifths of th United Kingdom market. The commission suggested that the two groups made excessive profits, and that the Offfce of Fair Trading should monitor industry costs and profits.


Mr Colin Corness, chairman of Redland

Ultramar in US expansion

Ultramar, the petroleum group, has bought, through its offshoot, Ultramar America, the capital of Beacon Oil. Beacon was bought from private interests and the price, subject to final adjustments, was $64.8m (£33.5m). The takeover will double Ultramar's refining capacity in the United States and provide a base for expansion on the West Coast.

Brockhouse loses nearly £2m

Brockhouse of West Bromwich is too deep in castings and forgings, engineering and steel to escape the slump in the West Midlands. Modest prosperity in process plant and in business abroad was not enough in the year to September to stop group pretax profits of £757,000 giving way to losses of £1.96m. Sales fell from £72.3m to £58.9m.

The only gloss that can be put on these figures is that Brockhouse did scrape through with trading profts of £166,000 against £3.15m but they vanished inside interest charges of £2.1m—only £26,000 less than last time. The tiny trading profit was struck after redundancy payments of £249,000 against £443,000.

However, a recovery in profits is expected to be swift once it is under way. A five-year £10.5m investment programme has just been finished and profits are once more being made with the various divisions operating at anything between 55 per cent and 70 per cent of capacity.

The shares hardened 1½p to 29½p yesterday. The year's high was 40½p.

The market noted the news that the group is near to producing the Maxwell bus transmission, a new concept in clutch and gearbox design.

In recognition of profits potential, Brockhouse is paying a token dividend of 1p a share net or 1.43p gross, against 4.29p gross, even though the inflation adjusted pretax loss was £4m.

Recession knocks 600 Group in first half

For the six months to October 10 pretax profits of The 600 Group, the machine tool manufacturing and engineering group, fell to £1.9m from £2.4m. At the attributable level profits were virtually halved at £533,000 and earnings per share came out at 2.6p against 3.1p.

Sir Jack Wellings, the chairman, said yesterday: "The recession at home and in Europe affecting our products continued unabated. Trading was further depressed by a general destocking policy adopted by home machine tool merchants owing to high interest rates.

"The group has bought a manufacturer of lorry-mounted cranes in South Africa during the half year and a new plant for the manufacture, servicing and mounting of cranes has been built adjacent to the company's factory near Johannesburg to meet a substantial increase in sales.

"We have formed a new company in the United States, Startrite, for the distribution of the expanding range of Startrite saws from newly built premises in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and have begun building a new plant in Singapore for George Cohen (Far East) to meet the increased market for the group and other products in South East Asia.

"Our exports are very strong. We continue to expand our investment overseas and the effect of this, together with the more attractive value of the pound, must assist our United Kingdom-based companies during these difficult times. We have made substantial economies and have been able to reduce our borrowings", he added.

Extel up 33 pc at half-time

Pretax profits of Extel, the communications and information services group, climbed by a third to £1.6m in the half-year to September 30. This was achieved on a turnover, including total advertising billings, 13.6 per cent greater at £45.5m.

The interim dividend is being raised from 3.21p to 3.57p gross on the capital increased by the recent one-for-one rights issue.

Stock markets

Gilts slip after firm start

The hope remains that a cut in domestic interest rates may not be too far distant but yesterday, with Wall Street closed for Thanksgiving Day, investors decided to slow down the pace.

Prices opened firmer, with a few buyers still scratching around hoping for the odd bargain. However, by mid-day interest had waned and prices soon started to drift mainly through lack of interest.

Is someone doubting that GEC will produce that impressive set of figures next Thursday? An 11p rise in the share price yesterday was cut by half to 774p when a line of 200,000 came on offer and only 70,000 were snapped up.

Nevertheless the tone remained firm with the Bank of England bracing for a further small reduction in domestic interest rates in order to steady the pound as prime rates continue to tumble.

The *FT* Index, which was 1.2 up at 10 am, closed 0.1 down at 526.1.

Interest was again centred on trading results and possible bid situations where the building sector was strongly highlighted. Dawn raid rumours were again numerous.

With the usual incentive from Wall Street missing, gilts spent a somewhat idle day, with prices steadily drifting after a firm start. In longs, prices closed all square, while at the shorter end losses of £¼ were reported, despite the continued strength of sterling.

In blue chips the half year figures from Courtaulds, 3p up at 69p, weer at the higher end of expectations although the dividend of 1p was generally discounted. International Paint, 88 per cent owned by Courtaulds, which made a substantial contribution to profits, rose 10p to 203p.

Elsewhere, Fisons rose 3p to 136p, Bowater 2p to 212p and Vickers 3p to 156p. But Glaxo fell 2p to 430p, Unilever 2p to 616p, Distillers 2p to 180p and Tube Investments 2p to 104p.

On the bid from the news was mainly of rumours of possible dawn raids. Tunnel, after a promising set of figures, was reported to be preparing a defensive dawn raid on T. W. Ward, 8p higher at 196p, which in turn was said to be ready toi bid £6 a share for Tunnel in the hope of fending off the recent bid from RTZ, up 15p to 469p. RTZ, meanwhile, was thought to be a possible target of Shell Transport & Trading, down 4p at 396p. Hence the attention in T. W. Ward.

In the meantime, newcomer Exco was said to be taking a stake in Britannia Arrow, up ½p at 51½p after selling its 11.57 per cent stake in Mercantile House, down 15p at 430p, for close to £9m. And a United States bidder was reported to be waiting in the wings for Eagle Star, up 5p at 332p, after the Monopolies had cleared the acquisition of a substantial minority holding by Allianz.

In tobaccos, Imperial Group rose 1½p to 66p still benefiting from the views of brokers Rowe & Pitman who believe the dividend may well be maintained, Rothman's Int 'B' slipped 2p to 79½p on profit taking after recent figures while Alfred Dunhill added a further 10p to 248p.

Tarmac rose 2p at 374p as its bid for Hoveringham was cleared by the Monopolies Commission with the price of the latter rising 11p to 224p. Better than expected figures lifted Redland 8p to 168p with French Kier 4p stronger at 88½p.

Arthur Guinness rose 4p to 62p after details of its plans to sell the lossmaking confectioner Callard & Bowser's while Tootal rose 2½p to 29p after selling its Australian interests.

Bid speculation also lifted Grindley's Bank 13p to 208p Stoua Romania 8p to 73p, Breedon Cloud 9p to 143p, and Grant Bros 6p to 172p. Awaiting today's annual meeting, British Car Auction rose 2p to 78½p.

Equity turnover on November 25 was £137.12m (13,822 bargains). Active stocks yesterday according to the Exchange Telegraph, were: Eagle Star, Wm Low, French Kier, TW Ward, Redland, Rank Organization, United Gas and Tootal.

Traded options: Total contracts rose to 2,323 of which puts made up 97. Attention was focused on Imperial Group on 1,117 and RTZ on 276 contracts.

Traditional options saw calls in Royal Bank of Scotland on 22p. Rothman's International on 7p and Town & City on 2½p.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Anglo-American (I)	—(—)	334‡(292‡)	104§(115§)	35§(35§)	21/1	—(110§)
Burtonwood Brew (I)	9.22(8.2)	1.26(1.2)	13.9(13.16)	1.9(1.8)	—	—(5.19)
Brockhouse (F)	58.9(72.2)	1.96†(0.75)	16†(1.73†)	1(3)	18/2	—(3)
Buckley's Brew (I)	5.19(4.52)	0.56(0.51)	3.32(3.91)	0.7(0.7)	11/1	—(—)
Courtaulds (I)	860(857)	20.5(2.8)	—(—)	1.0(—)	11/1	—(1.0)
Castfil (Klang) (F)	2.44(1.81)	1.1(0.78)	22.2(14.94)	5(4.3)	—	14*(6)
Carless Capel (I)	32.4(27.79)	1.16(2.85)	2.3(6)	1(1)	15/1	—(2.75)
C.P.I. Hldgs (F)	49.2(41.61)	3.17(2.78)	16.8(18.9)	5(4.5)	12/2	6(5.5)
Extel (I)	45.5(40.07)	1.6(1.2)	8.4(7.9)	2.5(2.25)	8/1	—(8.0)
French Kier (I)	101(92)	4.45(3.75)	5.5(3.7)	1.1(0.95)	15/1	—(3.25)
Fulcrum Inv (F)	—(—)	0.16(0.167)	4.61(4.84)	2.5(2.5)	31/12	4.6(4.6)
Arthur Holden (I)	13.7(11.42)	0.9(1.08)	7.8(9.68)	2(2)	8/1	—(5.0)
Humphries Hldgs (I)	5.74(6.81)	0.18(0.44)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Inf Paint (I)	171(134)	15.6(11.8)	—(—)	2(0.96)	8/2	—(3.5)
Killinghall (Rbr) (F)	0.16(0.15)	0.21(0.17)	15.1(11.09)	10(10)	—	14(14)
Ldn & Lennox Inv (I)	—(—)	0.41(0.26)	1.46(0.96)	0.6(0.5)	—	—(1.9)
M&G Second Dual (I)	—(—)	0.62(0.62)	—(—)	4.3(4.3)	18/1	—(7.8)
Prop & Rev Inv (I)	—(—)	0.89(0.9)	2.0(2.1)	1(1)	30/1	—(3.0)
Redland (I)	195.6(194.4)	21(23.07)	9.18(8.94)	2.6(2.6)	25/1	—(7.34)
Scottish Inv (F)	—(—)	6.55(6.39)	4.61(4.55)	2.9(2.6)	9/2	4.6(4.3)
600 Group (I)	72(87)	1.9(2.4)	2.6(3.1)	2.3(2.3)	15/1	—(5.3)
Silverthorne (F)	4.03(4.15)	0.35(0.26)	7.89(4.43)	1.25(1.0)	18/1	1.75(1.5)
Triplex (I)	16.5(17.5)	0.37†(0.89†)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(1.0)
Tunnel Hldgs (I)	75.2(54.2)	8.76(7.53)	27.9(22.2)	6(3.5)	25/1	—(15.5)
Utd Gas Ind (I)	21.6(25.15)	1.16(0.76)	—(—)	1.4(1.4)	15/1	—(4.9)
Wheeler's (I)	3.4(3.3)	0.17(0.23)	—(—)	1.5(1.5)	18/1	—(5.88)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *=Includes special dividend of 7p; †=Loss; ‡=S African Rand; §=S African cents.

New rule on depreciation

By Drew Johnston

A failure to charge annual depreciation on buildings classified by their owners as investment properties will no longer result in an auditor's qualification—as long as the auditors agree with this definition.

This is the result of the latest statement of standard accounting practice, SSAP 19, from the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies. The standard, Accounting for Investment Properties defines an investment property as an interest in land or buildings which is held for its investment potential, but not as one owned and occupied by a company for its own purposes.

The accountants say that the financial statements of businesses holding investments are more helpful to users if these investments are shown in the annual accounts at market value, and not at the usual basis of cost or valuation established in a previous period.

Without the standard, investment properties would have to be depreciated annually under the terms of the 1981 Companies Act.

ITO tops £37m after nine months

International Thomson Organisation reports earnings for the nine months to September 30, of £37.4m on net sales of £899.5m, compared to £28.2m on net sales of £675.7m in the same period of last year. Earnings in 1980 were affected by the losses of Times Newspapers, which in the nine months totalled £5.1m and are shown as a loss from discontinued operations.

International

Thie third quarter of the year showed a big jump in profits. Earnings for the quarter increased from £14.2m to £22.1m.

Earnings per share in the nine months were 26.8p compared with 20.3p in the corresponding period of last year.

In the United Kingdom, the third quarter reflected the outstanding success of the summer season at the travel group. Thomson Holidays sold a record number of package holidays.

Banque Bruxelles

Banque Bruxelles Lambert, which a year ago was forced to cut costs drastically, has reported doubled profits and said it will resume payment of a dividend, which will be 70 francs a share. Consolidated profits, which include the operations of the bank's French, British, Swiss and Italian subsidiaries, jumped by 117 per cent to 1,100m Belgian francs

Business appointments

New managing director for BR division

Mr Philip A. Norman has become managing director of British Rail Engineering. He joins BR from John Brown and Company, where he was chief executive of the machine tools division, and succeeds Mr I. D. Gardiner, who became director of engineering, BR headquarters, earlier this year.

Mr J. C. Armstrong has been made assistant managing director of the British Aluminium Company.

Mr D. N. A. McLure is named vice-chairman of Beecham Products from December 1.

Mr J. P. D. Hancox is to join the board of Higsons Brewery.

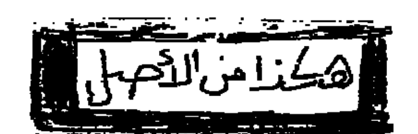
Lord Marshall of Leeds is now a board member of British Rail Property Board.

Mr Kenneth Walton has been elected a vice-president of ITT Europe Incorporated. He is director and general manager for ITT Components within ITT Components and Semiconductors Group.

Dr Alan Robertson, a director of ICI, has been made chairman of the British Nutrition Foundation.







FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

French Kier climbs 18.7pc

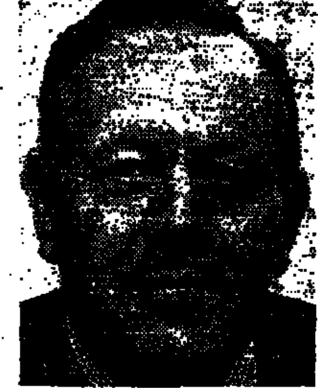
By Paul Maidment

French Kier, the engineering contractor, has lifted its sales and profits at the halfway stage in what it says is proving to be a difficult year for the construction industry, by maintaining margins even at the cost of limiting turnover growth.

Pretax profits for the six months to June 30 rose 18.7 per cent to £4.45m. Sales, however, increased less than half as fast from £92m to £101m.

The group is raising its half-time dividend from 1.35p to 1.571p gross, an increase of 16 per cent.

The European construction division, whose work is mainly in Britain, increased its contribution to group profits from £900,000 to £2.05m although turnover fell from £70m to £67m. The construction division also announced a £1.5m contract yesterday from British Nuclear Fuels in Sellafield, Cumbria.



Mr John Mott, chairman of French Kier.

The once-troubled Robert Marriott housebuilding subsidiary increased its contribution to the division sixfold to £350,000. The group also attributes the division's higher profits to increased efficiency and an increase in interest received. Group interest received was £1m against about £700,000 a year earlier.

Profits from the overseas division fell from £1.55m to £1.30m, although turnover rose from £14.5m to £27m, reflecting the start of new work from which no profit contribution has yet been taken. The company says that its overseas order book is at a record level and includes a share of a £117m road construction project in Iraq.

Despite a same again loss of £150,000 at its concrete pipe factory in Scotland profits of the products and services division rose from £10,000 to £50,000.

Mr John Mott, the chairman, said yesterday that the group had £240m worth of work worldwide on its order books, and he expected pretax profits for the full year to exceed last year's £8.6m.

Jessel optimistic about US wells

Mr Oliver Jessel, chairman of Jessel Trust, told shareholders yesterday that the investment in the Randolph gas field in New York State should be producing cash for the company by this time next year.

He said the group had 100 fields of 40 acres and the first seven wells drilling had struck satisfactory quantities of gas. The next 10, he said, looked encouraging. He estimated a cash flow of £300,000 a year from the 17 wells.

Jessel Trust has bought its stake in Rotaco (formerly Clairmace) to 19 per cent, buying 10 per cent from Plantation & General.

Plans to bring Rotaco to the Stock Market will now depend on the potential of what is described as a revolutionary domestic gas burner designed to prevent any escape of gas should the automatic ignition system fail.

Talbex Group

In our report yesterday of the 1981 results of the Talbex Group, the trading profit at Talbex's subsidiary, AP Skelton, should have been given as £220,000 and not £22,000 as was incorrectly stated because of a typographical error.

Triplex halves loss

After plunging heavily into loss in 1980-81, Triplex Foundries Group is starting to recover. Although group turnover slipped by £1m to £16.6m in the half-year to September 30, the pretax loss was more than halved to £371,000, compared with £891,000 last year.

The costs of "industrial surgery" in October are estimated at £1.6m and will be included in the annual accounts as an extraordinary item; but the actions taken will help to accelerate the group's return to profitability.

Mercury Securities

The results of Mercury Securities who owns S. G. Warburg, for the first half are in line with those for the comparable period last year. The board reports that it is never possible at this stage to make estimates for the year as a whole, but expenses continue to rise, while economic and business conditions make it increasingly difficult to achieve corresponding growth in revenue.

Ductile Steels

At Ductile Steels, Mr Ronald Sidaway, chairman, said that the directors were unanimous in their opinion that it was in the best interests of the shareholders and employees that Ductile remain independent.

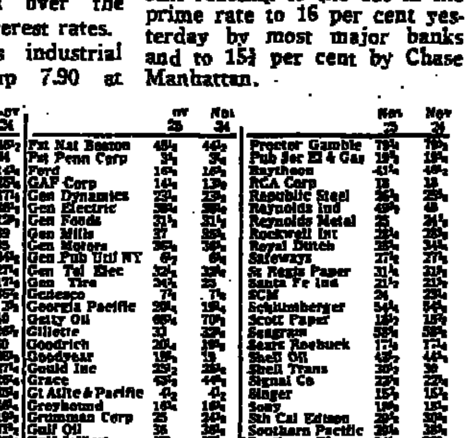
He added that output and sales were rising and that trading in the second quarter was satisfactory.

New Tootal disposal

Tootal has disposed of its second overseas interest in one month. Just three weeks after selling off its Ups 'n Downs US subsidiary, the group has reached agreement with Bruck of Australia to sell 19.5 per cent of its equity interest in its Australian associate Bradmill Industries.

If Tootal accepts the Bruck offer of 75 cents a share and the final dividend and disposes of the residue of its holding in Bradmill, it stands to receive around $A39.8 (£23.8m).



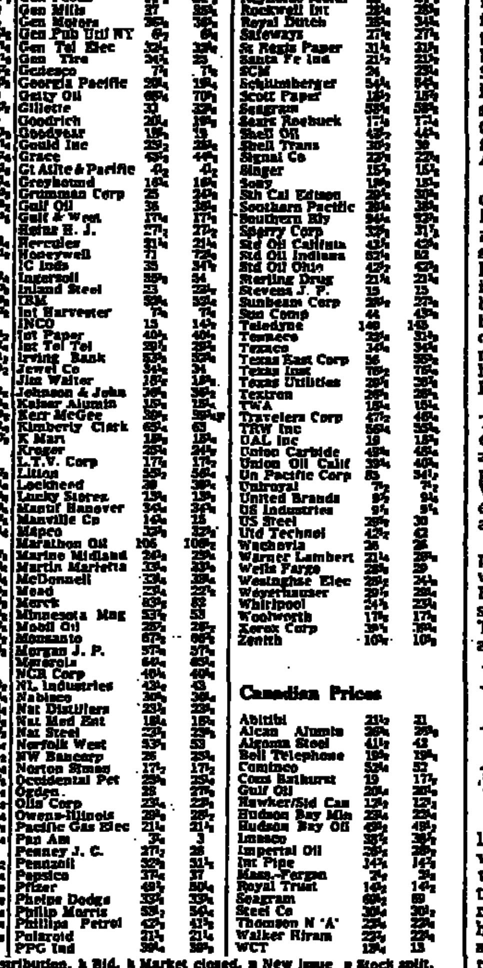


Wall Street

New York, Nov 25.—Stocks posted big gains for the second day in a row, reflecting the market's euphoria over the swift decline in interest rates.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 7.90 at 878.14. The average has added some 26 points over the past two sessions. Advances led declines by around 1,000 to 540 and volume rose to about 58.5 million shares from 53.20 million yesterday.

Analysts said investors were still reacting to the cut in the prime rate to 16 per cent yesterday by most major banks and to 15¾ per cent by Chase Manhattan.



	Nov 25	Nov 24		Nov 25	Nov 24		Nov 25	Nov 24
Allied Chem	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fst Nat Boston	[illegible]	[illegible]	Procter Gamble	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allied Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]	Fst Penn Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Pub Ser El & Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allis Chalmers	[illegible]	[illegible]	Ford	[illegible]	[illegible]	Raytheon	[illegible]	[illegible]
Alcoa	[illegible]	[illegible]	GAF Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	RCA Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amax Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Dynamics	[illegible]	[illegible]	Republic Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amerada Hess	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Electric	[illegible]	[illegible]	Reynolds Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Airlines	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]	Reynolds Metal	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Mills	[illegible]	[illegible]	Rockwell Int	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Broadcast	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]	Royal Dutch	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Can	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Pub Util NY	[illegible]	[illegible]	Safeways	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Cyanamid	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Tel Elec	[illegible]	[illegible]	St Regis Paper	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Elec Power	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gen Tire	[illegible]	[illegible]	Santa Fe Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Home	[illegible]	[illegible]	Genesco	[illegible]	[illegible]	SCM	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]	Georgia Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]	Schlumberger	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Nat Res	[illegible]	[illegible]	Getty Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]	Scott Paper	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Standard	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gillette	[illegible]	[illegible]	Seagram	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Telephone	[illegible]	[illegible]	Goodrich	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sears Roebuck	[illegible]	[illegible]
AMF Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	Goodyear	[illegible]	[illegible]	Shell Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Armco Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gould Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]	Shell Trans	[illegible]	[illegible]
Asarco	[illegible]	[illegible]	Grace	[illegible]	[illegible]	Signal Co	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ashland Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gt Atlic & Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]	Singer	[illegible]	[illegible]
Atlantic Richfield	[illegible]	[illegible]	Greyhound	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sony	[illegible]	[illegible]
Avco	[illegible]	[illegible]	Grumman Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sth Cal Edison	[illegible]	[illegible]
Avon Products	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gulf Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]	Southern Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bankers Tst NY	[illegible]	[illegible]	Gulf & West	[illegible]	[illegible]	Southern Rly	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank of America	[illegible]	[illegible]	Heinz H. J.	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sperry Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank of NY	[illegible]	[illegible]	Hercules	[illegible]	[illegible]	Std Oil California	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beatrice Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]	Honeywell	[illegible]	[illegible]	Std Oil Indiana	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bendix	[illegible]	[illegible]	IC Inds	[illegible]	[illegible]	Std Oil Ohio	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bethlehem Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]	Ingersoll	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sterling Drug	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boeing	[illegible]	[illegible]	Inland Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]	Stevens J. P.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boise Cascade	[illegible]	[illegible]	IBM	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sunbeam Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Borden	[illegible]	[illegible]	Int Harvester	[illegible]	[illegible]	Sun Comp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Borg Warner	[illegible]	[illegible]	INCO	[illegible]	[illegible]	Teledyne	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bristol Myers	[illegible]	[illegible]	Int Paper	[illegible]	[illegible]	Tenneco	[illegible]	[illegible]
BP	[illegible]	[illegible]	Int Tel Tel	[illegible]	[illegible]	Texaco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Burlington Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]	Irving Bank	[illegible]	[illegible]	Texas East Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Burlington Nthn	[illegible]	[illegible]	Jewel Co	[illegible]	[illegible]	Texas Inst	[illegible]	[illegible]
Burroughs	[illegible]	[illegible]	Jim Walter	[illegible]	[illegible]	Texas Utilities	[illegible]	[illegible]
Campbell Soup	[illegible]	[illegible]	Johnson & John	[illegible]	[illegible]	Textron	[illegible]	[illegible]
Canadian Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]	Kaiser Alumin	[illegible]	[illegible]	TWA	[illegible]	[illegible]
Caterpillar	[illegible]	[illegible]	Kerr McGee	[illegible]	[illegible]	Travelers Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Celanese	[illegible]	[illegible]	Kimberly Clark	[illegible]	[illegible]	TRW Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Central Soya	[illegible]	[illegible]	K Mart	[illegible]	[illegible]	UAL Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chase Manhat	[illegible]	[illegible]	Kroger	[illegible]	[illegible]	Union Carbide	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chem Bank NY	[illegible]	[illegible]	L.T.V. Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Union Oil Calif	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chrysler	[illegible]	[illegible]	Litton	[illegible]	[illegible]	Un Pacific Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Citicorp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Lockheed	[illegible]	[illegible]	Uniroyal	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cities Service	[illegible]	[illegible]	Lucky Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]	United Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clark Equip	[illegible]	[illegible]	Manuf Hanover	[illegible]	[illegible]	US Industries	[illegible]	[illegible]
Coca Cola	[illegible]	[illegible]	Manville Co	[illegible]	[illegible]	US Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Colgate	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mapco	[illegible]	[illegible]	Utd Technol	[illegible]	[illegible]
CBS	[illegible]	[illegible]	Marathon Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]	Wachovia	[illegible]	[illegible]
Columbia Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]	Marine Midland	[illegible]	[illegible]	Warner Lambert	[illegible]	[illegible]
Combustion Eng	[illegible]	[illegible]	Martin Marietta	[illegible]	[illegible]	Wells Fargo	[illegible]	[illegible]
Comwlth Edison	[illegible]	[illegible]	McDonnell	[illegible]	[illegible]	Westinghse Elec	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cons Edison	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mead	[illegible]	[illegible]	Weyerhaeuser	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cons Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]	Merck	[illegible]	[illegible]	Whirlpool	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cons Power	[illegible]	[illegible]	Minnesota Mng	[illegible]	[illegible]	Woolworth	[illegible]	[illegible]
Continental Grp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mobil Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]	Xerox Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Control Data	[illegible]	[illegible]	Monsanto	[illegible]	[illegible]	Zenith	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]			[illegible]			Canadian Prices [illegible]		
Exxon Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]	Phelps Dodge	[illegible]	[illegible]	Seagram	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fed Dept Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]	Philip Morris	[illegible]	[illegible]	Steel Co	[illegible]	[illegible]
Firestone	[illegible]	[illegible]	Phillips Petrol	[illegible]	[illegible]	Thomson N 'A'	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fst Chicago	[illegible]	[illegible]	Polaroid	[illegible]	[illegible]	Walker Hiram	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fst Intrst Bncp	[illegible]	[illegible]	PPG Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]	WCT	[illegible]	[illegible]

e Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted



Commodities

COPPER was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash bars, £826-27 a metric ton; high-grade three months, £861.50-62.00. Sales: 5,650 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £832-34; three months, £857-59. Sales: Nil tonnes. Morning.—Cash bars, £835-36; high-grade three months, £860.50-61.00. Settlement, £836. Sales, 10,800 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes, £832-32.50; three months, £856.50-57.00. Settlement, £832.50. Sales, 450 tonnes.

TIN was erratic.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £8,580-8,600 a tonne; three months £8,550-8,500. Sales, 7,000 tonnes. High grade, cash £8,550-8,600; three months £8,550-8,500. Sales, Nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash £8,430-50; three months £8,430-40. Settlement, £8,450. Sales, 13,070 tonnes. High grade, cash £8,430-50; three months, £8,430-40. Settlement, £8,350. Sales, Nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M35.84 a picul.

LEAD was steadier.—Afternoon.—Cash £355-56 per tonne; three months £349-50. Sales, 2,600 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £331-31.50; three months £344-44.50. Settlement £331.50; Sales, 6,475 tonnes.

ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £440.50-41.00 per tonne; three months £452.50-53.00. Sales, 11,600 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £438-38.50; three months £450-50.50. Settlement, £438.50. Sales, 4,975 tonnes.
PLATINUM was at £201.85 ($391) a troy ounce.

SILVER was quiet.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 422.60p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 819.60); three months, 436.60p (841.20c); six months, 450.80p (867.80c); one year, 481p (924.30c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 423.24p; three months, 437-37.5p. Sales, 90 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 419-20p; three months, 433-34p. Settlement, 420p. Sales, 45 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £557-58 per tonne; three months, £580-81. Sales, 2,650 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £556-57; three months, £580-81. Settlement, £557. Sales, 16,200 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,670-80 per tonne; three months, £2,680-85. Sales, 21 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2,665-70; three months, £2,675-80. Settlement, £2,670. Sales, 342 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo).—Jan, 52.80-53.30; Feb, 53.40-53.60; Jan-March, 53.50-53.60; April-June, 57.20-57.30; July-Sept, 60.50-60.60; Oct-Dec, 63.80-63.90; Jan-March, 67.10-67.20; April-June, 70.40-70.50; July-Sept, 73.40-73.60. Sales: 307 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS.—Spot, 51.75-53.00. Cifs: Jan, 53-53.75; Feb, 55.25-54.00.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): Nov, 1,128-1,130; Jan, 1,131-1,133; March, 1,101-1,102; May, 1,098-1,099; July, 1,095-1,096; Sept, 1,095-1,096; Nov, 1,095-1,100. Sales: 1,118 including 82 options. Sales: Lots including options.

COCOA (£ per metric ton).—Dec, 1,082-1,086; March, 1,093-1,095; May, 1,109-1,110; July 1,121-1,122; Sept, 1,129-1,130; Dec, 1,145-1,146; March, 1,155-1,156. Sales: 1,970 lots. ICCO prices: daily (Nov. 25) 92.87 c; indicator price (Nov. 26) 5-day average 90.77 c. (US cents per lb.).

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £5 higher at £159; the "whites" price was £2 higher at £170. Futures (£ per tonne): Jan, unquoted; March, 166.30-166.50; May, 168.50-168.75; Aug, 172-172.10; Oct, 176.50-176.75; Jan, 177.25-178.00; March, 182.30-184.00. Sales: 4,495. ISA prices (Nov. 25): daily, 12.22c; 15-day average, 11.85c.

SOYABEAN MEAL (£ per tonne).—Dec, 123-124.50; Feb, 126.30-126.50; April, 128-129; June, 130-131; Aug, 132-133; Oct, 133-136; Dec, 134.50-140. Sales: 13 lots.

WOOL.—NZ Crossbreds No 2 contract (cents per kilo): Dec, 370-380; Jan, 373-379; March, 383-387; May, 390-394; Aug, 407-408; Oct, 412-413; Dec, 417-420; Jan, 420-423; March, 427-430; May, 432-438. Sales: 28 lots.

GRAIN. (The Baltic).—WHEAT.—Canadian western red spring unquoted. US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: Dec, £111.25; Jan, £112.25 trans-shipment east coast sellers. US hard winter 13½ per cent unquoted. EEC unquoted. English feed fob: Jan, £111.00 paid east coast; Jan-March, £113.50 seller east coast.

MAIZE.—French: First half Dec, £127.50; second half Dec, £128.50 sellers trans-shipment east coast. South Africa white/optional yellow: Dec, £83 seller.

BARLEY.—English feed fob: Dec, £107; Jan, £109 east coast sellers. All cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta) EEC origin.—BARLEY: Jan, £105.90; March, £106.90; May, £109.85; Sept, £100.90. Sales: 255 lots. WHEAT: Jan, £108.15; March, £111.55; May, £114.40; July, £117.30; Sept, £106.40; Sales: 196 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority: Location ex-farm spot prices:

	other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S. East	—	£108.60	£101.60
S. West	—	£105.70	£100.00
W. Mids	—	£104.50	
N. West	—	£106.80	£102.40

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Nov 26: GB: Cattle, 96.96 per KG LW (−0.54); UK: Sheep, 175.55p per KG EST DCW (+9.57); GB: Pigs, 79.52p per KG LW (−2.96). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 2.5 per cent, average price 96.12p (+0.18); Sheep numbers up 10.8 per cent average price 175.47p (+9.09); Pig numbers down 5.1 per cent average price 79.52p (−2.96). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 0.7 per cent average price 99.07p (−2.47); Sheep numbers down 1.5 per cent, average price 174.24p (+11.88).

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE ($ US per tonne): Nov, 324.75-25.00; Dec, 325.75-26.00; Jan, 326.50-26.75; Feb, 326.50-26.75; March 326.00-26.25; April 324.25-25.50; May 324.25-24.50; June 324.25-24.50; July 324.25-24.50. Sales: 231 lots of 100 tonnes each.

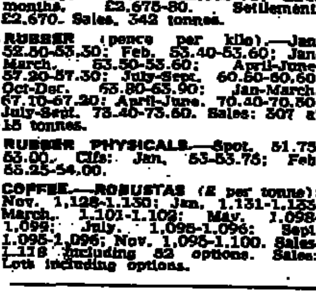
POTATOES (Gafta).—Feb, £88; April £96.10; Nov, £67.30. Sales: 126 lots of 40 tonnes each.



BASE LENDING RATES

ABN Bank	15 %
Barclays	15 %
BCCI	15 %
Consolidated Crdts	15½ %
C. Hoare & Co	*15 %
Lloyds Bank	15 %
Midland Bank	15 %
Nat Westminster	15 %
TSB	15 %
Williams and Glyn's	15 %

* 7 days deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 13%, up to £50,000 13½%, over £50,000 14%.



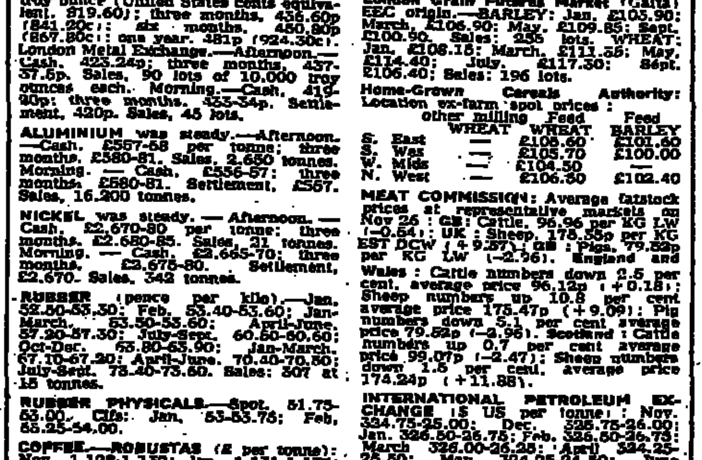
Partnership to invest in US oil

A claim that Britain's North Sea oil regulations are too complex to attract domestic investment has led to the launch of an investment partnership in the United States oil industry.

Vestor Energy, a recently formed United Kingdom management company, announced yesterday that it intends to raise £3m from British investors by January 31.

The company claims this is the first time investors have been able to join a partnership to invest in the less regulated American oil and gas exploration industry.

It says uncertainties in Britain over taxation, ownership, licensing and direct and indirect depletion control, inhibit private investment.



Cricket

Confident English have already won more than half the battle

From A Special Correspondent
Bombay, Nov 26

One would have to thumb through many *Wisdens* to find England starting a Test series on tour with a record to match that of Keith Fletcher's side in India: four wins and one draw and the fillip of yesterday's victory in Ahmedabad to round their preparations off.

The record may slightly flatter them in that the opposition has been short of experience and class. Even India had to do without Kapil Dev, their best all rounder, in yesterday's one-day international. But for a side on tour, self-confidence is more than half the battle. At Wankhede Stadium tomorrow, they will be in good heart, psychologically a step ahead as Fletcher and Gavaskar walk out to toss in front of an expected crowd of 40,000.

Fletcher has settled into the captaincy so smoothly nobody not knowing better would guess almost five years have passed since he played a Test match. His last encounter was with Lillee in the Centenary Test in Melbourne in March, 1977. If Botham had succeeded in the West Indies, or Brearley been available to make the present tour, he might have seen his career out leading Essex.

There was more grass on the Test pitch than England were expecting when they practised at the nets today. It was a surprise when the selectors, Fletcher, Willis and Subba Row, named eleven players only, rather than adding on an extra batsman

They did so on the assumption probably well founded, that India were unlikely to have forgotten Botham's 13 for 106 on a seamer's pitch in the Jubilee Test 18 months ago. Uncertainty about Kapil Dev's fitness

Fletcher: a smooth accession.

(strained back) increases the chance that the pitch will have a shave.

Botham, who was 26 on Tuesday, made the sixth of his eight Test hundreds in that match and stands within 23 runs of becoming the first Englishman to do the "double-double", 2,000 runs and 200 wickets, for his country. Only Sobers (8,032 and 235) and Benaud (2,201 and 248) have achieved the feat.

For Underwood, too, though more distantly, the match is a stepping-stone towards a record. His 279th Test wicket, a quick yorker that scattered Roberts's stumps at Lord's in 1980, looked to some to be his last when he missed the tour to the West Indies and was left out of England's 12 in August at Old Trafford.

Now, thanks to Fletcher's faith in him, he returns after a 14-Test absence, needing 29 wickets to beat Trueman's England record and 31 to top the lot—Gibbs's 309 with offspin for the West Indies. With six Tests in India, plus another in Sri Lanka, Underwood should by March be king of the castle in conditions which have yielded 44 wickets on two tours.

India have a promising new left-hander in 19-year-old Ravi Shastri. He is tall, for an Indian, 6ft 2ins, and with his steep trajectory has the makings of a good partner for the slower, flighty Doshi. Shastri bowled with exceptional control in the one-day international, slanting the ball at middle-and-leg, but turning it enough to inhibit the sweep stroke. He bats well, too.

Unless Kapil Dev makes way for Suru Nayak, an English-type seam bowler, whose 77 not out at Baroda interrupted England's run of victories, Srikkant, the opening batsman, will be India's one new cap. He played dashingly at Poona, making 87 and 74, and added 66 in the first innings of the Nagpur match.

Since then, he has been out for one and nought, driving loosely at Underwood at Nagpur, and outguessed by Botham at Ahmedabad — three outswingers followed by a straight one that knocked out his off stump. England are happy to see him in the side ahead of the solid Chetan Chauhan.

ENGLAND: G A Gooch, G Boycott, C J Tavaré, D I Gower, K W R Fletcher, I T Botham, J E Emburey, G R Dilley, R W Taylor, D L Underwood, R G D Willis.

INDIA: S M Gavaskar, K Srikkant, D B Vengsarkar, G R Viswanath, S M Patil, Kapil Dev (or S Nayak), K Azad, S M H Kirmani, R Shastri, S Yadav, D R Doshi.

No special instructions to curb Lillee's temper

Brisbane, Nov 26.—The Australian fast bowler Dennis Lillee will be under no specific instructions to keep a tight rein on his temper when the second Test match against Pakistan begins here tomorrow. "I don't foresee any problem and I don't intend talking to Dennis about his behaviour," the Australian captain Greg Chappell said today. "Dennis knows what is expected of him."

Chappell said there was no longer any animosity between the two teams after relations had strained to near breaking point when Lillee kicked the Pakistan captain Javed Miandad during the first Test in Perth two weeks ago. Lillee was subsequently banned for two one-day internationals by the Australian Cricket Board for his part in the incident.

The Pakistan team will not be named until tomorrow morning, when the selectors will be in a better position to read the pitch.

Mohsin Khan, the 27-year-old Karachie opening batsman arrived in Australia last Sunday to reinforce the injury-hit touring team, is almost certain to win a place in the side.

Mansoor Akhtar, who batted at three in the first Test, is likely to make way for Zaheer Abbas, who missed the Perth match because of a cracked rib. "I've still got a lot of pain from the injury, but I think I will be able to stand up to a five-day Test," Zaheer said.

The Gabba pitch is heavily grassed and likely to favour pacemen, but Chappell indicated today that the Australians would make one of their fast bowlers 12th man.

In spite of a string of low scores, Chappell would continue to bat at number three with Dirk Wellham playing instead of the injured Graham Yallop.

Following the successful World Series cup match, Chappell has suggested that cricket pitches should be smaller. He believes that 80-metre boundaries were ideal, especially for one-day cricket. "People come to see runs being scored, not batsmen wearing themselves out running threes", he added.

The Pakistan fast bowler Sarfraz Nawaz has complained that he and other leading players in the touring team were not being paid adequately in Australia. He said he would have to play in every match of the four-month tour to earn about $A3,000, and maintained that the Australians were earning much more. "Why should they be paid so much more than us? We help to bring the crowds through the gate just as much as they do."—Reuter.

AUSTRALIA (from): G S Chappell, B M Laird, G M Wood, K J Hughes, A R Border, D McD Wellham, R W Marsh, B Yardley, D K Lillee, T M Alderman, J R Thomson, G F Lawson.
PAKISTAN (probable): Javed Miandad, Mohsin Khan, Mudassar Nazar, Zaheer Abbas, Majid Khan, Wasim Bari, Wasim Raja, Iqbal Qasim, Imran Khan, Sarfraz Nawaz, Sikander Bakht.

Bangladesh a favourite for ICC Trophy

Seventeen teams will play in the second ICC Trophy competition in the Midlands from June 16 to July 10 next season. The winner will join the seven Test playing countries for the third world cup in England in 1983.

Bangladesh, who are among the favourites for the trophy won by Sri Lanka in 1979, are so keen to do well that they have already arranged a programme of 17 matches before their opening game in the competition.

The teams will play in two groups with semi-final matches at the West Bromwich Dartmouth and Mitchell and Butler grounds and the final at Grace Road.

TEAMS: United States, Gibraltar, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Israel, Papua New Guinea, Hongkong, Canada, Fiji, Bermuda, Argentina, Malaysia, Bangladesh, East Africa, West Africa, Netherlands, Singapore.

Richards is captain

Sydney, Nov 26.—The West Indians have been forced to omit Clive Lloyd and Gordon Greenidge, both batsmen, from the match against New South Wales in Sydney which starts tomorrow. The pair are suffering from leg injuries. Lloyd has handed the captaincy over to Viv Richards

NEW SOUTH WALES: R B McCosker (captain), G Beard, T M Chappell, I Davis, J Dyson, L S Pascoe, M Bay, S J Rixon, I Skilbeck, P M Toohey, M R Whitney.
WEST INDIANS: I V A Richards (captain), D L Haynes, S F A Bacchus, H A Gomes, A Logie, J Dujon, A M E Roberts, S T Clarke, M A Holding, C S H Croft, H Joseph.

Rugby Union

Swansea pair aiming to convince Wales

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

For two Swansea players in action against the Australians tomorrow, good individual performances could give them a timely push towards a first cap in the international match in Cardiff seven days later. Mark Wyatt has been making a consistently polished and resourceful impression at full back this season, not just for his club but for Wales B too. The lock, Richard Moriarty, has been going well enough in the same colours to hope that he will be chosen alongside Allan Martin when the Welsh XV is announced next Sunday.

The choice of Wyatt, who has been in remarkable goal kicking form this season, would imply a second Welsh change at full back since J. P. R. Williams was dropped, along with several other notables, after the defeat in Scotland last February. Gwyn Evans, of Maesteg, who replaced David Nicholas for his first cap on the wing, at Murrayfield, was drafted in by the selectors to play at full back against Ireland and France.

If Moriarty were to partner Martin, the most honoured of Welsh locks with 34 caps, it would mean the omission of Geoff Wheel, who has played 30 times for his country. Wheel has had a difficult season with injury, and I am told that he has not been playing outstandingly well.

The form of Clive Rees, for London Welsh, added to his showing when recalled to the national side at the end of last season, suggests that he will get one of the wing places. The other looks destined for Robert Ackerman (Newport) or Martin Thomas (Aberavon), these being the only other players in this position who have been included in the Welsh squad. My colleague, Gerald Davies, rates Glen Webbe of Bridgend, as the best wing in Wales and is surprised that he has not been added, at least for experience.

The omission of Ray Gravell may leave Peter Morgan, one of Llanelli's British Lions, as leading candidate for his place at centre. Clive Williams (Swansea) may push Ian Stephens hard for the loose head prop position which he yielded to him last season, and there could be come debate whether to pick Gareth Williams (Bridgend) or Rhodri Lewis (Cardiff) on the open side flank. Williams, a proven ball winner at the line out, may well get the vote.

Wales are hoping that doubts about the fitness of David Richards (hamstring) and Graham Price (shoulder) will be happily resolved next weekend. Price has won 33 consecutive caps for his country at tight head prop. There is a feeling not confined to Wales that the side may be due for a change in captaincy. Jeff Squire has not endeared himself in some quarters by showing dissent at refereeing decisions.

For the Swansea game, the Australians have chosen 12 of the side which won their first international, 16—12, in Dublin.

TEAM: R G Gould, M C Martin, M H Cox, A G Slack, B J Moon, P E McLean, J B Hirwell; A M D'Arcy, C M Carberry, S Pilecki, S P Poidevin, A A Shaw (capt), P W McLean, G Cornelsen, M E Loane.

Ollie Campbell, who has played no rugby this season, has notified the Irish selectors that he will not be available for their final trial on December 19—a match brought forward by two weeks at the request of the national coach, Tom Kiernan.

Rugby League

Making the punishment fit the crime

By Keith Macklin

Three players were unlucky and Bob Mordell had a lucky day, when suspensions were meted out at the disciplinary committee meeting in Leeds yesterday. Those who paid a hard price for their sins were Ron Wileman, the Hull hooker, and John Millington and Chris Burton, the Hull Kingston Rovers forwards, who will all miss the John Player Trophy semi-final matches through suspension.

Mordell, the Oldham forward familiar to supporters of Rosslyn Park, was fortunate through a quixotic gesture by the staff of the opposing club. On receipt of a letter from Terry Langton, the Halifax half back, and Mick Blacker, the Halifax coach, the committee decided that Mordell had done nothing in the Oldham v Halifax match worthy of further punishment and ruled that the sending off was sufficient. Ironically, Langton, having nobly cleared Mordell of involvement in a fracas, took his own medicine of a three-match suspension.

Millington was suspended for three matches, while Burton and Wileman are out for one match each. Although the John Player semi final matches, Hull v Oldham and Hull KR v Swinton, are being played a fortnight apart, for the purposes of suspensions they are deemed to take place on the same day, tomorrow.

The usual posse of hookers turned up before the committee, some making personal appearances. Handscombe (Featherstone Rovers) and Gibson (Hunslet) received two-match bans, while Spurr (Castleford), Raistrick (Keighley), Tabern (Leigh), Roberts (Dewsbury), Lowe (Rochdale Hornets), and Szymala (Barrow) received one-match suspensions. The two heaviest sentences were inflicted on Dewsbury players Mason and Craven, who will be on the touch lines for four matches each.

Golf

Hobday finds a magic wand

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, Nov 26

Simon Hobday, the colourful former Rhodesian professional now based in South Africa, tore round the Kensington course in Johannesburk today with an astonishing eight under par 64 to take a five-stroke lead after the second round of the £27,000 ICL International.

Britain's Ian Mosey, five under with 67 for a total of 137, is in second place but will be hard pressed to catch Hobday if he can maintain his form. Hobday had a modest one under par 36 for the first nine and then birdied five in a row to finish the second nine in 28. "I hit it cold with my magic wand", he said. "I found my momentum and the putts just went in from all angles."

Mosey though, a popular figure in South Africa, is showing steady improvement and his 67 today was three strokes better than his first round 70 and put him a stroke ahead of the third placed South Africans Jeff Hawkes and Dale Hayes.

Paul Carrigill, Simon Bennet and Nigel Burch, all of Britain, each had good second rounds today to put them well up.

LEADERS: (South African unless stated): 132: S Hobday 68, 64. 137: I Mosey (GB) 70, 67. 138: J Hawkes 67, 71; D Hayes 68, 70. 140: M Palmer 70, 70; H Baiocchi 69, 71; A Henning 70, 70. 141: P Carrigill (GB) 71, 70; D Watson 72, 69; F Allem 73, 68. 142: G Levenson 74, 68; M Bright 69, 73; P Simmons 67, 75; J Bland 69, 73. 143: S Bennet (GB) 74, 69; R Stewart 70, 73; N Burch (GB) 76, 67; W Winsnet 74, 69; T Webber (Zimbabwe) 72, 71.

Milk race plan off

A plan for next year's silver jubilee Milk Race to be open has been abandoned because Britain's professional cyclists declined to provide a team.

Athletics

Wells moves to south to travel even faster

Allan Wells, Scotland's Olympic sprint champion, is moving to England to pursue his sporting career. The 29-year-old 100 metres gold medallist is selling his house in Edinburgh to live and train in Guildford, Surrey, next year.

Guildford is where his coach, John Allan, lives. Mr Allan will continue to prepare Wells for the European championships and Commonwealth Games next year.

Wells said that he did not think that he was appreciated in Scotland

He added that Meadowbank was closing in May, June and July next year so that it could have a new track laid for the Commonwealth Games in 1986. This was

CCPR

Millichip's call for war on violence

By Norman Fox
Sports Correspondent

Bert Millichip, the chairman of the Football Association, yesterday demanded a "declaration of war" on mindless violence. He said the FA could do no more to combat hooliganism and now depended on governmental legislation to bring about a harder line on law and order.

Speaking at the Central Council of Physical Recreation conference at Bournemouth, Mr Millichip said the Spanish World Cup authorities were "nervously contemplating the arrival of ferocious gangs of moronic louts from this country who find the game of football such a convenient platform from which to launch and display their show of naked and uncontrolled aggression". He feared hooligans would "wreck the ferry and wreck Bilbao", but hoped the Spaniards would turn them back at the ports.

Not for the first time, Mr Millichip, a solicitor and former chairman of the FA disciplinary committee, asked why the law did not allow passports to be removed from those caught misbehaving abroad.

He wanted a new version of the Riot Act and caning to be permitted at schools. He also called for a review of corporal punishment "for special cases". He felt there should be a "clamp-down on ultra-nationalists, the skinheads and bovver boys, bare to the midrift, draped in grubby Union Jacks".

His suggestions for improving the hooligan problem, which he said was not restricted to the period before and after matches outside grounds, included using policemen dressed as football fans and stringent conditions upon coach operators, specifically banning alcohol. But primarily he was concerned that hooligans appearing in court "boasted if they got a prison sentence" and increased the debts of the country by failing to pay fines. "Increasing the fines to £1,000 will merely increase the debt", he said.

Looking back at the history of violence committed by England followers, he said: "Affection for a particular side is one thing. It is the very basis of our professional game, but what manner of individuals are we becoming when we cannot be compassionate in victory, and cannot we also accept defeat without treating it as a national or personal affront?"

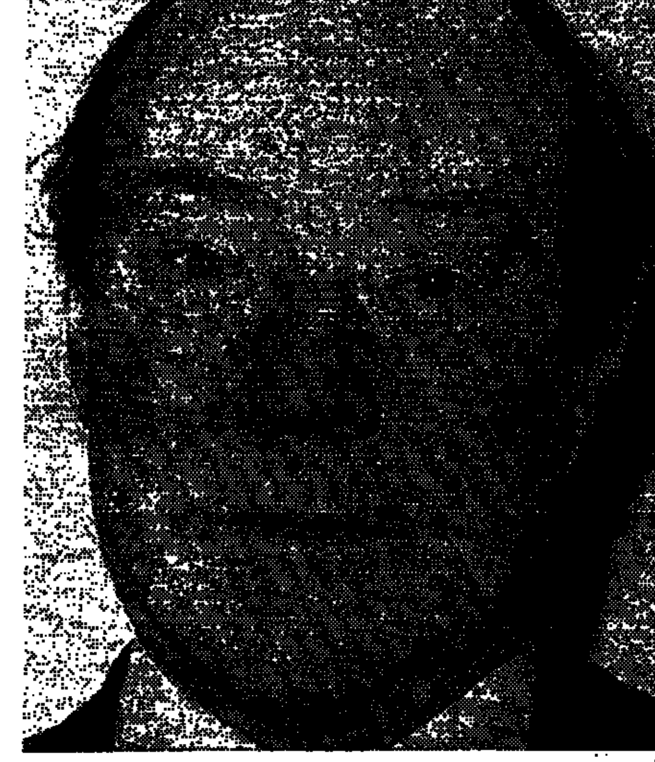
Asking for urgent legislation, he said: "There is a strong desire for a harder line on law and order. Recently the FA was politely 'ordered' by the Home Secretary to put its house in order; now it is frankly admitted there is little further it can do."

He was deeply concerned at the extent of sympathy for wrongdoers found among the influential and those in authority. He said: "I call urgently on those in authority to declare war on mindless violence. Give the police power and the effectiveness to catch the villains, then make the law swift, sure and exemplary."

The European Court of Human Rights did not escape his criticism for calling corporal punishment "degrading". He said: "The offenders not only expect, but they also know, they will receive human treatment when those thoughts are totally absent from their minds when committing the offence. How much more degrading can it be than to be associated with these scum when we are abroad?"

His 12-point plan also included preventing the movement at home and abroad of those whose dress or demeanour was offensive; penalties involving preventing offenders appearing at "public events" for a stated period; the right of search for the police, and the increasing of attendance centres.

He thought the Government had to impose the will of the silent majority who were "heartily sick of disorder at public events and on the streets". He said: "As far as football is concerned, the FA has insufficient muscle to act further on its own." Decisive action from the Government as to how it plans to re-assess its authority and to maintain public order is absolutely essential. We must be seen to impose the rule of law."



Millichip: call for corporal punishment review.

Racing

Understudy steps up for leading role

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Fulke Walwyn's run of good fortune continued at Wincanton yesterday when Beacon Time and Glen Berg, his only runners there, were both successful. Walwyn was not present and so missed Kevin Mooney's impressive riding of them. Basically, Mooney is Bill Smith's understudy at Saxon House, but although Smith is recovering from a heavy fall at Ascot last Friday, Mooney has made the rides on these two particular horses his own this season.

The race for the Lord Stalbridge Memorial Gold Cup which Glen Berg won for his hugely enthusiastic owners, Christopher Pilkington and Malcolm Kimmins, was sigularly exciting: just the sort guaranteed to set the blood tingling on a raw November's afternoon. And the horse who contributed greatly to that heady atmosphere was Border Incident, who has always been one of the most exciting steeplechasers to watch when he has been in full cry. Border Incident was not seen at his best at all last season because he was plagued throughout, by back trouble. But thanks to treatment from Charles Strong, whose reputation in the field of equine physiotherapy has been something of a legend for so long, Border Incident is right again now.

But Glen Berg is a battler even though he wears blinkers and he simply would not give in. He matched Border Incident stride for stride all the way up the straight over the last three fences, and in the end the combination of superior fitness, and a weight concession o fnearly two stone, told in his favour on the run in.

Half an hour before he won on Glen Berg, Mooney had an even harder ride on Beacon Time in the Chard Handicap Steeplechase. He was in the first two all the way, but at no stage was he able to shake off Princely Mark.

Today's programme at Newbury is rather disappointing in comparison with some of the many fine cards staged there in the past. However, that observation will not worry the owners of Rusthall if he wins the Oxford Steeplechase. Much will depend on whether his confidence is intact after nearly being brought down in his last race at Windsor.

French doping inquiry

From Desmond Stoneham,
Paris, Nov 26

Hot on the tail of the news that Jean-Paul Gallorini has been temporarily suspended from training following seven positive dope tests on his horses, comes the information that security officers of the English Jockey Club have recently visited Chantilly. If persistent rumours are to be believed their duty was to interview two trainers whose horses proved positive to prohibited substances after running in English group races over the past months. From Haydock Park this afternoon, Peter Smiles, a director of Racecourse Security Services, would not be pressed into saying more than "no comment".

The Gallorini case comes up before the French National Hunt committee on December 4 and it is now confirmed that seven horses are so far involved. Four of these won on November 15 and three, Neomenie, Video Tape and World Citizen ran in the colours of either Mr or Mrs Daniel Wildenstein, while Seven Letters was victorious for Geneva-based Serge Fradkoff. The horses involved in the dopings will be allowed to run and put down on the race programme as trained by their owners. However, if any prove positive to dope the owner will lose his racing colours. All the dope horses had traces of phenylbutazolidin (bute)

Jimmy Miff back on the Aintree trail

By Michael Seely

That gallant stayer Jimmy Miff returned to his best form when beating Clever General by 12 lengths in the Parker Rosser Handicap Chase at Haydock Park yesterday. The nine-year-old was always galloping over his rivals and drew clear in the straight to win unchallenged. His trainer, Ian Wardle, afterwards said: "Jimmy Miff was never quite right last season and has been dropped a lot in the weights. We'll now go for the Stan Mellor Cup at Nottingham and then get him ready for the Grand National". Jimmy Miff was still in contention when he fell at Becher's Brook the second time round in the 1980 National.

Jimmy Miff has been on the go for some time but Jimmy Fitzgerald showed us a chaser of the future in Galway Blaze, whom Tony Charlton brought with a well-timed run to catch Rogario in the closing stages of the Club Handicap Hurdle. Owned, like Pollardstown, in partnership by the Formby & Tulloch families, Galway Blaze was bought in Ireland by Fitzgerald at the same time as Phoenix Prince who won here on Wednesday. "We'll try and get Galway Blaze qualified for the Joe Coral Golden Hurdle final at Cheltenham. But the horses's future must lie over fences as he is such a magnificent jumper", his trainer said.

Fitzgerald has been turning out his fair share of winners this season and another trainer whose horses are running particularly well at present, John Blundell, saddled his ninth winner of the season when Cap Too romped home by seven lengths in the Rainford Handicap Hurdle.

The afternoon was packed with excitement. That master tactician David Goulding gave a fine exhibition of how to ride a waiting race on Carl's Wager in the Vaux Breweries' Novices Chase Qualifier. Carl's Wager was at least 10 lengths off the pace as

David Goulding: a master tactician.

Donjill turned for home, but long before Goulding made his move the eventual result was certain—barring accidents. The six-year-old was winning his fourth race off the reel for Roger Fisher who said that Ekbalco will take on Broadsword in the Berkshire Hurdle

The day's feature race, the Garswood Novices Hurdle, resulted in a hard-earned victory for Ryeman who held off the sustained challenge of Thurston on the long run in. Ryeman owed much of his success to the enterprising tactics adopted by Alan Brown who forced the pace virtually from the start. Gaye Brief, the 7-4 favourite, could only finish third.

At Leicester this afternoon the man-in-form David Nicholson can land a double by winning the Measham Handicap Chase, with Polar Express, and the second division of the Beginners' Novices Hurdle, with On A Cloud. Polar Express stayed on well when beating Space Bridge at Newbury and appears to be improving. On A Cloud belongs to Broadsword's owner, Lord Northampton and, like last season's champion four-year-old, was bought out of John Dunlop's stable. The four-year-old won twice on the Flat last season and turned in a performance full of promise on his first outing over hurdles when third to Brass Change on this course in November.

STATE OF GOING (official): Leicester, chase good, hurdles good to soft. Newbury, good. Tomorrow, Sedgefield, good to soft. Wolverhampton, chase good, hurdles good to soft. Market Rasen, good.

Football

Aberdeen may rue their neglect

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Aberdeen have as good as thrown their chances of taking the Uefa Cup on to the rubbish heap. They broke into Hamburg's defence a dozen times on Wednesday's freezing night and, after examining the contents, like careless burglars they overlooked the silverware that was there for the taking and left with the most meagre of spoils.

Hamburg, let it be emphasized, lead the Bundesliga and are favourite to lift the trophy. Yet they were dismantled by a group of youngsters at Pittodrie and were fortunate not to suffer the same humiliating fate as their West German colleagues, Borussia Mönchengladbach, who went down 5—0 to Dundee United in the second round.

News of such an astonishing result would have spread fear throughout the other seven survivors in the quarter final, especially as Aberdeen have already dismissed the holders, Ipswich Town. Although the Scots did score three, they missed a penalty as well as at least three other open invitations. Even that might have been enough had they not unnecessarily conceded two goals themselves.

It was as ironic that Aberdeen should be denied by a goalkeeper called Stein as it was that Strachan should fail to score from the spot. It was his successful penalty that kept them in the competition when Arges Pitesti were threatening to pull back a three-goal deficit in Romania. As it is, the return on December 9 will take place in Hamburg's home where they have averaged three goals a game this season. The fitness of McLeish, Miller's defensive partner, is all the more crucial now that Rougvie is out for six weeks with torn knee ligaments, an injury he sustained in the last 10 minutes.

In his absence, Hrubesch prodded in the fifth and perhaps decisive goal. After such generosity, it was not surprising to learn that Beckenbauer, still majestic but now uncharacteristically wayward, regards Aberdeen as "not as good as Nottingham Forest", who held Hamburg and Keegan at bay to win the European Cup 18 months ago.

On the way then, Hamburg swept aside Real Madrid with an awesome display at home in the semi-final that took them into a four-goal lead before the interval. Although only five of that side remained, the memory of such destruction still lingers and bodes ill for Aberdeen's future.

Real Madrid themselves look likely to reach the next round after Santillana's lone effort brought them an away victory over Rapid Vienna. Valencia's triumph over Hadjuk Split was unexpectedly emphatic and Sporting Lisbon, Malcolm Allison's side who dismissed Southampton, were surprisingly held at home by Neuchatel Xamax. Next week Dundee United meet Arsenal's conquerors, Winterslag, and may be left to wave the Scottish flag in Europe.

The Scottish Football Association are at least waving a red flag of warning to future violent offenders. They suspended Pelosi, of St. Johnstone, for the rest of the season after a tackle which may have ended the career of Brown, of Dunfermline. It is Pelosi's seventh suspension in four years and is the most severe sentence since Woodburn was banned for life for a similar incident in 1954. Although the ban was lifted three years later, Woodburn never played again.

Managerial support for England

Three of England's trophy-winning managers pledged support for Ron Greenwood's World Cup build-up by offering to match their teams against his squad.

Keith Burkinshaw, Bobby Robson and John Lyall promised to give England the opportunity of Extra practice when they were honoured at a Football Writers' lunch in London yesterday.

Mr Burkinshaw started the mood of club-country co-operation, saying: "England's preparation worries me a bit. You only establish a good side if you are constantly together and I wonder whether six matches is enough for England." The manager of the FA Cup winners added: "League clubs must offer any help they can and if Ron Greenwood wanted his squad to play Spurs on a Monday morning, I would agree."

Bobby Robson, the manager of Ipswich Town, the UEFA Cup-holders, said "Aanyone who doesn't want to help England should not be in the game. Ron has six games lined up before the finals but it would be a tremendous idea if he doubled that number by playing leading club sides to produce togetherness and unity."

John Lyall, the manager of West Ham United, the second division champions, also gave support. "As club managers we will all get a slice of the glory if any of the home nations are successful."

Mr Robson, who supervises the England "B" team, is confident England will do well. He said: "We have stumbled and bumbled and finally got there—but we can get better and Ron Greenwood has time and matches in hand to achieve that."

Mr Lyall said: "Our game still has its strengths and if we play to those we will do well. But I feel the Cup is likely to be won by outstanding individuals.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.
THIRD DIVISION: Southend United v Reading.
RUGBY UNION: Llanelli v Cardiff (7.00).
RUGBY LEAGUE: Second division: Salford v Blackpool Borough.

Ipswich reject Brazil's transfer request

Alan Brazil, aged 22, the Ipswich Town and Scotland striker, asked his club for a transfer yesterday, but the request was rejected by Bobby Robson, the club's manager.

Brazil, who feels he has been made a scapegoat for some of the team's recent poor performances, said: "The manager told me to cool down and wait to see how things go during the next few weeks. But I'm not prepared to withdraw my transfer request."

☐ Jeremy Charles will be out of action for two months. Swansea City's Welsh international yesterday had a cartilage removed from his right knee damaged during a comeback appearance against Brighton and Hove Albion on Tuesday.

Wednesday's football results

League Cup
Third round replays
Aston Villa (2) 2 Leicester (0) 0
Cowans pen
Withe
23,136
Winners play Wigan.
Lincoln (0) 2 Watford (2) 3
Cunningham 2 Terry
8,773 Pritchett
Rostron
Winners play Queens Park Rangers.

First division
Leeds Man City
Postponed
Sunderland (0) 2 Nottm F (1) 2
Hindmarch Walsh
McCoist Fashanu
17,419 Needham

Second division
Blackburn (0) 0 Shrewsbury (0) 0
6,872
Derby (1) 2 Cambridge U (0) 1
Swindlehurst Sheridan og
Clayton
8,470

FA Cup
First round replays
Hartlepool (0) 1 Wigan (0) 0
3,730
Newton
Winners play Rochdale or Hull

Millwall (2) 3 Portsmouth (0) 2
Allardyce Tait
Chatterton Hemmerman
Hayes 6,842
After extra time: score at 90 min 2—2
Winners play Dagenham
Torquay (0) 1 Bristol C (0) 2
Lawrence Mann 2
4,334
Winners play Northampton
Yeovil (0) 0 Dagenham (0) 1
3,816 Stewart
After extra time
Winners play Millwall

Uefa Cup
Third round, first leg
Aberdeen (1) 3 Hamburg (0) 2
Black Hrubesch 2
Watson
Hewitt
24,000
OTHER MATCHES: Radnicki Nis (Yugoslavia) 2, Feyenoord 0; Rapid Vienna 0, Real Madrid 1; Göteborg 3, Dynamo Bucharest 1; Lokeren (Belgium) 1, Kaiserslautern 0; Valencia 5, Hajduk Split 1; Sporting Lisbon 0, Neuchatel (Switzerland) 0.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Bath 2, Worcester 3.

Rugby Union
CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University 15, Steele Bodger's XV 9; Cross Keys 6, Neath 15; Ebbw Vale 23, South Glamorgan Institute 10; Pontypridd 12, Pontypool 13; Weston-super-Mare 0, Glamorgan Wanderers 21.

Tennis

Queens of the court set for a potential classic

Sydney, Nov 26.—Australians are looking forward eagerly to a potentially classic match tomorrow between the queens of Australian tennis—Evonne Cawley and Chris Lloyd. Today they set the scene for a tennis promoter's dream when they won through to meet in the quarter-final round of the women's open tournament at White City.

It is another battle between the emotional sweetheart and the relentless machine and the 1980 and current Wimbledon champions are expected to draw thousands to the centre court

Mrs Cawley beat Marte Pinterova, of Hungary 7—6 6—1, and the top seed Mrs Lloyd, was 2—4 behind in the first set of her match against another American Nancy Yeargin, before recovering

Seeded players Pam Shriver of the United States, Virginia Ruzici, of Romania and Sue Barker, of Britain, were beaten. Miss Barker, seeded twelfth failed to survive the second round in which she was defeated 6—4 6—3 by Jane Preyer, an American.

SECOND ROUND (US unless stated): V Ruzici (Romania) beat L Allen 6—3, 7—6; J Preyer beat S Barker (GB) 6—4, 6—3; R Potter beat P Teeguarden, 6—1, 7—6; A Hobbs (GB) beat C Tanvier (France), 3—6, 6—2, 6—3; B Bunge beat A White, 5—7, 7—5, 7—5. Third round: E Cawley (Australia) beat M Pinterova (Hungary), 7—6, 6—1; C Lloyd beat N Yeargin, 6—4, 6—3; A Jaeger beat K Jordan 6—3, 1—0 (retired); W Turnbull (Australia) beat Miss Ruzici, 6—3, 6—2; Miss Potter beat Miss Preyer, 6—3, 6—4; M Navratilova beat S Saliba (Australia), 6—0, 6—3; Miss Bunge beat P Shriver, 6—4, 4—6, 7—6; A Smith beat Miss Hobbs, 3—6, 6—4, 6—4.—

Miss Bhaguandas hurt

Caroline Bhaguandas, the 13-year-old Middlesex girl who reached the final of the last 16-and-under Saab junior indoor tournament, will miss this week's heat at the Luton regional sports centre, because of a damaged shoulder.

Connors too weary

Cincinnati, Nov 25.—Jimmy Connors has withdrawn from the United States team to play Argentina in the Davis Cup final on December 11-13 and will be replaced by Eliot Teltscher. Connors relinquished his place as he was weary after a hard season.

Snooker

Mountjoy out of touch against Knowles

Doug Moutjoy, a world finalist this year, was aut of form in the United Kingdom professional tournament, sponsored by Coral, at the Guild Hall, Preston, yesterday. Making his first appearance against Tony Knowles, of Bolton, Mountjoy, a United Kingdom winner in 1978, finished the day 6—2 down.

Knowles, aged 26, won the first four frames but did not make a break higher than 29. Mountjoy managed a break of 52 in the seventh frame to close the gap

On Wednesday night Steve Davis made breaks of 120 and 105 in beating Willie Thorne 9—2.

THIRD ROUND: W Werbeniuk (Worksop) beat K Stevens (Bristol) 9—7. Remaining scores (Werbeniuk first): 66—26, 68—20, 50—34, 63—16, 55—18, 29—59, 85—37; D Taylor (Blackburn) leads J White (London) 3—3 (Taylor first): 32—62, 73—14, 84—0, 15—71, 69—39, 52—66, 61 23; J Johnson (Bradford) leads R Reardon (Stoke), 4—3 (Johnson first) 42—66, 36—70, 47—66, 66—32, 98—1, 96—23, 57—50; T Griffiths (Llanelli) leads G Miles (Birmingham), 3—3 Griffiths first, 96—29, 31—66, 69—55, 76—38, 22—90, 51—67, 62—34, 69—24; T Knowles (Bolton) leads D Mountjoy (Ebbw Vale) 6—2 (Knowles first): 69—51 74—31, 61—38, 64—67, 26—87, 60—48, 37—82, 56—53.

Swimming

Dispute deprives Miss Croft of competition

June Croft, Britain's 100 metres freestyle record-holder, defends her Arena sprint title at Coventry today, but has been deprived by an industrial dispute, of a confrontation with some of Europe's fastest sprinters.

The 18-year-old from Wigan, who heads the final qualifiers for the 50-metre sprint, has been anticipating the prospect of winning through to the inaugural European Arena sprint championship, which was planned for today's programme.

Instead, the European event, along with televised coverage, is a casualty of the official dispute by the National Union of Public Employees in the Coventry area. Miss Croft, in company with other competitors, officials and spectators, may have to walk through a picket line to enter the pool area.

Soviets win gold

Moscow, Nov 26.—The Soviet Union won the gold medal in the women's team event today at the world gymnastics championships.

For the record

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Boston Celtics 124, Golden State Warriors 101; Indiana Pacers 108, Cleveland Cavaliers 102; Los Angeles Lakers 117, San Antonio Spurs 96; Phoenix Suns 128, Houston Rockets 114; Utah Jazz 102, San Diego Clippers 100; Denver Nuggets 154, Dallas Mavericks 133, Seattle Supersonics 110, Portland Trail Blazers 105; Detroit Pistons 139, Kansas City Kings 122.

Cycling

GENT: Six-day race: Second day standings: 1, U Freuler and R Savary (Switzerland), 79 points. One lap back: 2, P Sercu (Belgium) and G Frank (Denmark) 81; 3, R Pijnen (Netherlands) and W de Bosscher (Belgium) 66. Two laps back: 4, G Wiggins (Australia) and M Burton (GB) 111; 5, D Clark (Australia) and E de Wilde (Belgium) 64.

Hockey

LONDON LEAGUE: Cambridge University 2, Hawks 1; Slough 3, Oxford University 0.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: London University 0, Essex 2.
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: South. Third place match: Surrey 0, Reading 2.

Ice Hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Buffalo Sabres 3, Detroit Red Wings 1, Quebec Nordiques 3, Hartford Whalers 3; Toronto Maple Leafs 3, New York Rangers 5; Pittsburgh Penguins 2, Montreal Canadiens 1; Washington Capitals 4, Minnesota North Stars 2; Winnipeg Jets 7, Colorado Rockies 3; Edmonton Oilers 11, Los Angeles Kings 4; Vancouver Canucks 6, Chicago Black Hawks 2.

Squash rackets

CUMBERLAND CUP: First division: Grafton 3, Cumberland 2; Sundridge Park 1, Wanstead 4; Wimbledon 5, Ealing 2; Woodford Wells 4, Berwe 1.

Tennis

JOHANNESBURG: South African open tournament: women's singles, second round: K Rinaldi (US) beat J Mundel (South Africa), 6—0, 6—2. P Casale (US) beat B Harmer (South Africa), 7—5, 6—0. T Harford (South Africa) beat B Mould (South Africa), 7—6, 6—0. S Rollinson (South Africa) beat A Leandrex (US), 6—3, 1—6, 6—4.

SANTIAGO: open tournament: men's singles, first round: H Gildemeister (Chile) beat A Gimenez (Spain), 6—1, 6—4. J Higueras (Spain) beat D Keretic (West Germany), 6—2, 6—2. R Cano (Argentina) beat G Tiberti (Argentina), 6—1, 6—2. C Castellar (Argentina) beat R Acuna (Chile), 6—3, 6—2. S Casal (Spain) beat F Luna (Spain), 7—6, 4—6, 6—2.

Hockey

Counties play countrywide French doping inquiry

By Joyce Whitehead

There are 11 county championship matches tomorrow and four on Sunday. These include the first matches in both the East and West championships. These two territories each have eight counties and tomorrow Cornwall play Wiltshire at Wheal Eliza, St Austell; Devon play Herefordshire at Ottery St Mary; Avon, last season's West champions, play Gloucestershire and Somerset meet Dorset.

In the east, Suffolk have practically the same side as last season but have recalled Denise Wayman and play Cambridgeshire on the Guardian Royal Exchange ground, Ipswich. Huntingdonshire play Hertfordshire, last season's East champions, at Thomas Cook's ground, Peterborough.

In the north, Cheshire play Lancashire at Hartford and Durham play Manchester League at Darlington. The results of these matches, particularly the first, could make all the difference to the result of the North championship. The North territory covers a large area and the standard of hockey is considerably above average, due to the concentration of players in the large cities. At York, Yorkshire entertain Cumberland.

In the south, Middlesex play Hampshire on the Polytechnic ground at Chiswick. Hampshire have already drawn with Buckinghamshire whereas Middlesex lost 0—1 to Surrey. They are both sides with great determination.

Newbury programme

Tote Double: 2.0 and 3.0. Treble: 1.30, 2.30, and 3.30.

1.0 FRESHMANS HURDLE (Div I: 3-y-o: £972: 2m 100yd) (21 runners)

101	0	ALDINGTON BOY, (C Wheatley) Mrs J Reavey, 11-0	K Mooney
102	0	BANKNOTE, (Mrs P Blackburn) Miss S Morris, 11-0	M O'Halloran
103		BAZ BOMBATI, (R Sack) S Mellor, 11-0	S Jobar
104		BRAVE HUSSAR, (H Joel) R Turnell, 11-0	Steve Knight
107		CORN STREET, (M Wilkins) J Bosley, 11-0	Mr M Bosley 7
108		DEVIL ROCK, (C Hampton) D Underwood, 11-0	J Redmond 4
109–128	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

1.30 CLANFIELD CHASE (Handicap: £2,068: 3m) (9)

[illegible]

2.0 JACKY UPTON CHASE (Handicap: £2,443: 2½m) (7)

[illegible]

2.30 OXFORDSHIRE CHASE (£2,296: 2m 160yd) (5)

401	101-321	BEECHEY BANK, (H Joel) R Turnell, 7-11-6	A Turnell
403	17/2-23	GAY INVADER, (Mrs G Abecassis) F Winter, 7-11-0	J Francome
406	14e120	ORANGE TAG, (M Gosa) N Henderson, 8-11-0	S Smith Eccles
407	2420-12	RUSTHALL, (M Kimmins) F Walwyn, 8-11-0	K Mooney
408	113-204	[illegible] (J Webber) J Webber, 9-11-0	A Webber

[illegible]

3.0 ROUND OAK HURDLE (Handicap: £2,341: 2½m 120yd) (15)

[illegible]

3.30 FRESHMANS HURDLE (Div II: 3-y-o: £970: 2m 100yd) (16)

[illegible]

Newbury selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
1.0 Right Regent. 1.30 Moonlight Express. 2.0 Iron Fighter. 2.30 Rusthall. 3.0 Classified. 3.30 Neat.

Leicester programme

12.45 BEGINNERS HURDLE (Div I: 3-y-o £690: 2m) (25 runners)

[illegible]

1.15 BARKBY CHASE (Claiming: £867: 2½m) (12)

[illegible]

1.45 MEASHAM CHASE (Handicap: £1,406: 3m) (4)

[illegible]

2.15 SILEBY CHASE (£1,161: 2m) (7)

[illegible]

2.45 WALTHAM HURDLE (Handicap: £847: 2m) (17)

1	[illegible]	[illegible]	S J O'Neill
3	110-323	STRADMAN (CD), (D Griffiths) D Griffiths, 8-11-3	H Davies
8	12210-	ROADSTER (D), (C Nash) P Bailey, 5-10-13	P Scudamore
10	012-	WELL GREASED (D), (B Moore) W Holden, 4-10-9	A Coogan
11	12f/000	SUPREME-VISTA (D), (F Sisson) B Richmond, 8-10-9	G Holmes
12	20000-0	FOB (CD), (Mrs J Mugglestone) A Birch, 10-10-8	J A Harris 4
13	0044-13	CORNARD (D), (M Allen) J Scallan, 10-10-7	J Barlow
14	2f/100	BOWSHOT, (K Evans) N Henderson, 7-10-7	P Hobbs
18	300f03-	GAY TWENTIES (D), (P Gordon) C Drew, 7-10-1	S McNeill
20	001-002	MULLENAN (D), (P Perrett) J Perrett, 6-10-0	P Barton
22	03/0300	SALUTE THE LAW (D,B), (F Coxon) W Clay, 10-10-0	M Elliott 4
24	00p0/00	PERSONAL CALL, (G Green) R Atkins, 8-10-0	R Atkins
27	0/1-p0f	ALBANY VICTOR (D), (Flavell Finishes Ltd) G Fletcher, 5-10-0	G Fletcher 4
28	0/100p-	NOMADIC STAR (D), (H Ford) H Ford, 5-10-0	—
30	0002-op	DENTON, (G Cull & Sons Ltd) W Wharton, 5-10-0	S J O'Neill
31	0p410-3	FIREBOURG (B), (Mrs J Evans) Mrs J Evans, 6-10-0	T Wall 4
32	p30-024	MARKDAL (CD,B), (M Smith) Mrs P Sly, 7-10-0	M Bastard

7-2 Stradman, 4 Roadster, 6 Cornard, 8 Well Greased, Mullenan, 12 Bowshot, Salute The Law, 16 Hang-on-Elvis, Fob, 20 others.

3.15 BEGINNERS HURDLE (Div II 3-y-o: £690: 2m) (23)

2	-0	ANOTHER WILL, (Exors of the late P Sparke) R Whittle, 10-10	S Keightley 4
3		A REJECT, (Miss T Macdonald) W Wharton, 10-10	S J O'Neill
13		GHIDALGO, (Mrs C Metcalf) G Blum, 10-10	—
14		GREY AT LAST, (Mrs C Carson) C Spares, 10-10	P Carson 7
15	0	HABALLOO, (J Sumner) T Forster, 10-10	H Davies
17	00	HEAD IN THE CLOUDS, (J Greetham) J Blundell, 10-10	M Conroy 4
18		HIRTSBROOK, (Mrs M Fletcher) B McMahon, 10-10	S J O'Neill
19		KEMBOOK, (H Dale) P Bevan, 10-10	T Wall 4
20		LAST ACT, (W Fennin) B McMahon, 10-10	P A Charlton
24	0	MARSHALL SOLDELLA, (F Hewitt) J P Smith, 10-10	C Astbury
25	3	ON A CLOUD, (Ld Northampton) D Nicholson, 10-10	P Scudamore
27	0	ORANGE VALLEY, (M Allen) J Scallan, 10-10	J McLaughlin 4
29	p4	RIBODIEN, (D Richards) G Fletcher, 10-10	G Fletcher 4
30	0	SAME DATE, (Metal-Woods Ltd) S Mellor, 10-10	P Hobbs
32	400200	SILVER LEO, (B Wade) J Harris, 10-10	J A Harris 4
33		SIMERICA, (Mrs D Needham) P Felgate, 10-10	K Sims 7
35	00	SIR GIVENCHY, (Mrs J Dunlop), W Musson, 10-10	A Coogan
36	4	SIR PLUS, (Ld McAlpine) D Morley, 10-10	B R Davies
37	4	SKYBRIGHT, (Mrs M Cooper) G Blum, 10-10	J Barlow
40	u0	SWITCH OFF, (Mrs J Evans) Mrs J Evans, 10-10	T Wall 4
41	0	TARGET PATH, (C Nelson) W Jenks, 10-10	R F Davies
42		THE DIPLOMAT, (D Holland) D Ringer, 10-10	S McNeill
43		TUDOR BOB, (Ld Walpole) R Carter, 10-10	P Barton

6-4 On A Cloud, 7-4 Sir Plus, 10 Same Date, 12 Skybright, Haballoo, 14 Silver Leo, 16 others.

Leicester selections

By Michael Seely
12.45 Royal Vulcan. 1.15 Saucy Coin. 1.45 Polar Express. 2.15 Drumglass. 2.45 Fob. 3.15 On A Cloud.

Haydock results

1.0 (1.3) WEAVERHAM HURDLE (3-y-o) [illegible]

[illegible]

BISHOPS BOW, b m, by Crozier—Lucky Bay (Mrs A Morley), 5-11-5 .. Steve Knight (6-1) 1
Another Breeze .. Mr A J Wilson (11-2) 2
Tallagoraty .... H Davies (20-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 72p; places, 41p, 26p, £1.17. Dual F: £2.05. CSF: £5.44. R Turnell at Marlborough. 6l, 12l. Stebban's Joy 4-1 fav. Melerek (33-1) 4th. 16 ran.

12.45 (12.48) YOUNG FARMERS HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £474: 2m)
GOD'S FRESH AIR, ch g, by [illegible]

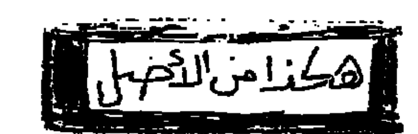
13p. Dual F: £3.96. CSF: £2.46. F Walwyn, at Lambourn. 2l, 6l. Arrow Lad (16-1) 4th. 10 ran. NR: Habo.

2.15 (2.22) CHARLTON HOREHORNE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,764: 2½m)
MERCILESS KING, br g, by No Worry — My Mary (Eric C. Harvey), 4-10-10
P Scudamore (9-1) 1
Sea Lark .. John Williams (16-1) 2
Haka .... S Jobar (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.11; places, 16p, 25p, 29p. Dual F: £7.14. CSF: £14.55. [illegible]

[illegible]

Wincanton

[illegible]



Convincing school-leavers that there is life outthere somewhere after the sixth form

Landsailing now projected as a new sport

Landsailing, as an alternative to windsurfing for those who don't like to be wet, cold and can't swim anyway, is being promoted as a new sport, with the organization of clubs and competitions.

It is basically windsurfing for landlubbers, and was on display recently at an airfield in rural Essex for appraisal by the committed windsurfer and the merely curious alike.

A man on roller skates was chasing landsailors up and down the main runway at North Weald, filming all the while, and Martin Nickell-Lean was talking, among other things, about his windsurfing dog, Kim, who has apparently already taken to landsurfing like a duck to, er, water. Apart, that is, from a distressing tendency to bite the wheels of the board.

And that is a pity, because it is in the front wheel that the secret of the delta-shaped board lies. "The patent on that will be very strong," Mr Nickell-Lean says. It is all, apparently, about the crucial relationship of angles.

The Landsail, which is basically a fibreglass board with three wheels, has been developed over the period of a year by Mr Nickell-Lean and Mike Hampton. It is, they say, the first land-based sail board to capture the true characteristics of windsurfing.

At North Weald they were being followed around by a film crew from the Department of Trade, which was making a film about the creation of new, small companies, to convince school-leavers there is still life out there somewhere after the sixth form.

The board will accept any said board rig, mounted near the centre of the board, and operation is similar to a sail board, with the pilot standing and holding the wishbone-shaped boom. Steering is achieved by moving the mast backwards and forwards, making the front wheel turn into or away from the wind.

"Landsailing offers the opportunity of sailing the whole year round", Mr Nickell-Lean, aged 25, a qualified board sailing instructor, says. The board was unveiled in the summer. Getting the all-important steering right alone took four months for Mr Nickell-Lean and Mr Hampton, a 35-year-old engineer.

Mr Hampton calls the Landsail "a high speed roadworthy vehicle", and Mr Nickell-Lean holds the record for speed, having reached just under 45 mph on one. Another windsurfer's comment was: "It is great for building up the adrenalin. It must be the sight of all that tarmac rushing under your feet". That's why helmets must always be worn.

The weekend events at North Weald included an obstacle course, circuit racing and free-style events, when the wind permitted. There was time for wheelie-dragging, which is sailing with the front wheel off the ground, and for other, more nautical manoeuvres, such as duck-tacking, terminology directly borrowed from windsurfing.

There are plans to build child-sized boards and a full-size one is already in use in Nottinghamshire, helping to teach blind people to windsurf. "The whole board is British, and that's why we are so proud of it", Mr Nickell-Lean says.

Paul Harrison



Brian Harris

Pulling the wishbone: pilots at the controls of their high-speed vehicles.

Boxing

Graham finds he has friends at City Hall

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

It does not matter that Herol Graham's souffle fell flat at the City Hall, Sheffield, on Wednesday night. Kenny Bristol of Guyana, ruined it. The 6ft 1in New York-trained boxer did not relish being whipped by the cheeky British champion for all of the 15 rounds of the Commonwealth light-middleweight title bout.

Bristol did not win, but he did let the air out of Graham's concoction and the local hero was left gasping at the end of the bout, happy to have a big man like the Guyanese to lean on. It was the toughest of his 19 bouts, Graham admitted afterwards. The full house lapped up every moment of the contest, even though it went downhill after passing the halfway mark.

The cheering that greeted Graham's victory was so spontaneous that it had none of the violence of cheering at boxing matches. They think the world of Graham in Sheffield.

That is why I hope that the rumour that the British and Commonwealth champion has had his last bout at the City Hall just because he will not be renewing his contract with his manager, Tony McKenna, after December is untrue.

There are also moves to show the exciting double champion in other cities, like London and Liverpool. It would not surprise me if Charlie Atkinson, the Liverpool promoter, took a hand in Graham's affairs. Graham has boxed for him before.

But first things first, Graham must defend his titles against Chris Christian in December. In view of the desperately hard bout at Sheffield he may be able to move the bout to January, when he will be under a new manager, most likely his old friend and mentor from his amateur days, Brendan Ingle, who prepared him for the Commonwealth title bout.

I hope Mr Ingle does not desert the City Hall. Few boxers have that sort of marvellous following. Sheffield should remain for Graham what Glasgow was for Jim Watt. If by then, Mr Atkinson has taken an interest in Graham's plans, I am sure that the Liverpool promoter and his friend, Mr McKenna, who puts on the Sheffield shows, will find a way to keep the boxer in front of his own supporters. Perhaps, with the Board's new TV deal for provincial promoters, this will be possible.

Squash rackets

Cagey Hunt walks off with match and unusual ball

From Richard Eaton
Toronto, Nov 26

The semi-final matches lined up as the seedings forecast in the World Championships here today, but nobody could have predicted the contrast in fortunes of the world champion Australian, Geoff Hunt, aged 34, and Jahangir Khan, the Pakistani half his age who is already World Masters champion.

Hunt took only 34 minutes to overwhelm the former world amateur champion, Maqsood Ahmed, the No 5 seed, by 9—0, 9—4, 9—1. The champion asserted his authority from start to finish as he has over most of the Pakistanis over the years. Maqsood was simply afraid of playing a long rally with the durable Australian to contest more than a handful of points sensibly and struck the tin on 20 occasions. He might have done better in a steel band.

Jahangir, the only Pakistani that Hunt has never broken mentally or physically, had a marathon when he did not expect one. Gamal Awad, the Egyptian who usually likes to contest a game at colossal speed, was prepared to play a mesmerising battle of attrition instead. It lasted not far short of the time usually necessary to get on terms with the top two and he lost 9—6, 8—10, 9—5, 9—1 in one hour and 53 minutes.

Awad, seeded 6th, has often boasted that he could become the champion and he made nonsense of those who laughed at him. It took an hour and three-quarters before he began to tire and by then he had led 6—3 in the first game, save a game ball to win the second, and led 5—4 in the third.

Three times Awad marched through the glass door to admonish the referee. "I not lie, the ball was up, I tell truth. Ask him", he said once, gesticulating to Jahangir—who gave him the thumbs down. Awad once tried for a let when left holding a piece of his racket in each hand. But his delaying tactics were not of the winning kind. Jahangir played more cut-off volleys and did less of the frenetic retrieving. The end came brutally with the fourth game taking only five minutes.

Surviving such a gruelling match should operate in Jahangir's favour, especially as he has a rest day tomorrow in which to recover—assuming of course that he beats Hiddy Jahan, who took him the full distance in the Welsh Masters last month. Hunt has had three easy matches and a walkover and now has to cope with an in form Qamar Zaman.

But the champion is a cagey customer. He and Maqsood had to play with such a spongy ball it was hard to get it to the back of the court. At the end Hunt slipped it into his pocket and sidled off unnoticed. "I want it to practice with", he said, "just in case I get another one next time". It would be foolish to suggest the champion was unprepared.

Pearman takes over

Roger Pearman, a Wilmslow businessman, who formerly played cricket for Middlesex and Cheshire, takes over as a chief executive of Derbyshire County Cricket Club [illegible]. He succeeds David Harrison, who resigned in July. The club is now without a chairman. Ken Turner has resigned on medical advice, and the vice-chairman, David Robinson, will be acting chairman

Book review

Giantkillers on record

By Marcus Williams

This is the time in the football season when clubs like Altrincham, Enfield, and Yeovil spring to prominence for their exploits in the FA Cup.

A ready reference to their deeds and those of other potential giantkillers—as well as of even smaller clubs whose fame will rarely spread beyond their own areas—is provided by the *Rothmans FA Non-League Football Yearbook 1981-82* (Rothmans Publications, £3.95), a splendid companion volume to the *Rothmans Football Yearbook* which has established itself as the game's *Wisden*.

The non-League annual filled a significant gap among football record books when it first appeared in 1978. Now, after three pocket-sized editions, it has grown ambitiously in format and scope to offer the most comprehensive coverage yet of semi-professional and amateur football throughout the British Isles in words, statistics and photographs, assembled by a large team led by the editor, Tony Williams.

In recognition of the attempts being made to create a pyramid structure for non-League football, with the Alliance Premier League at the apex and local leagues forming a widespread base, the book is organized in geographical sections.

However, this has meant the loss of the alphabetical directory of clubs which was the leading feature of previous issues and one hopes that Mr Williams will consider its restoration next year

Yachting

Flyer continues to lead from Ceramco

Auckland, Nov 26.—The two leading yachts in the Whitbread round the world race, Flyer of the Netherlands and Ceramco New Zealand, were sighted off the South Island of New Zealand today. A patrol aircraft spotted Flyer about 140 miles west of Milford Sound, in the far south of the Island.

The Dutch yacht was about 60 miles ahead of Ceramco, and 630 miles from Cape Reinga, near the finish of the second leg of the race, from Cape Town to Aukland. No other competitors were sighted today. They are believed to be several hundred miles behind the leaders.—Reuter.

Motoring by Peter Waymark

Jaguar XJS the one to beat

It may not seem as long ago as 1975 that the Jaguar XJS first graced the roads as the successor to the classic E-type but in the competitive business of selling cars six years can be a wide gap between model changes, however good the model in the first place.

This summer, Jaguar announced two significant changes to the XJS, which must sharpen its competitive edge against such rivals as the big Mercedes coupes, the BMW 635 and the Porsche 928. The first was to fit a new cylinder head to improve fuel economy; the second to cut the price by more than £800.

A third, more gradual change should result from Jaguar's well publicized efforts to improve quality and reliability. As a car to drive, and for the money, the Jaguar has long been the finest in the world; but that has too often counted for little in face of peeling paintwork and chronic breakdowns.

The new cylinder head was forced on Jaguar by the energy climate, not least in the United States where the XJS is mainly sold. The 12-cylinder engine may have been outstanding for its combination of performance and refinement but it has also been one of the thirstiest.

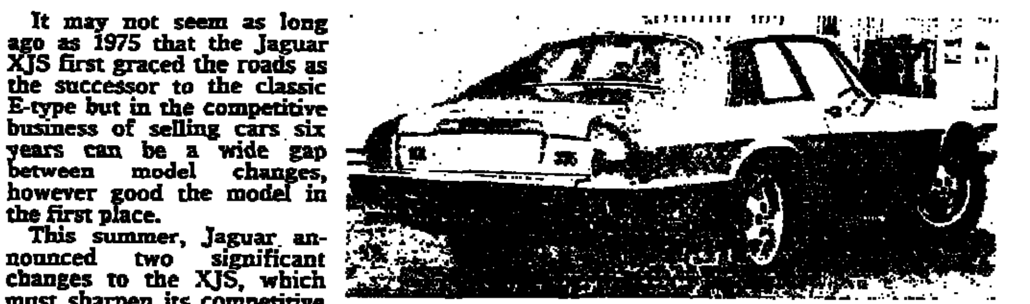
The "Fireball" combustion chamber, which was designed by Michael May, a Swiss engineer, promotes more efficient burning of very lean mixtures and while it does not suddenly transform the XJS into an economy model, it should give fuel savings of at least 20 per cent.

On the official test figures, the XJS now does 15.6 mpg on the urban cycle, compared with 12.7 mpg; 22.5 mpg against 18.6 at 75 mph; and 27.1 mpg compared with 21.9 at 56 mph. The urban figure may be an exaggeration, since the formula tends to favour automatic cars, and I managed no better than 13.4 mpg. My return on the open road, however, was a very reasonable 21 mpg.

This improved fuel consumption has not compromised the superb performance of the XJS; indeed, the claimed top speed of 155 mph is slightly higher than before, enhancing Jaguar's boast that the XJS is the fastest production car in the world with automatic transmission. With a 0 to 60 mph time of 6.5 seconds, it is also one of the fastest at accelerating. The fuel-injected 5.3 litre engine now delivers 299 bhp, against 285, while improved torque has allowed gearing to be raised from 24.8 to 27 mph per 1,000 rpm in top, which means even quieter cruising.

But the proof is not so much in the figures as in the driving. Once again, I can only marvel at the vivid response to a mere touch of the throttle and the almost silent running. No other car pulls away so quickly and so sweetly and can summon up such tremendous overtaking power with virtually no increase in engine noise.

As for noise, without the evidence of the rev counter it would be difficult to tell whether the engine had started and it makes almost as little fuss at 100 mph as it does idling. Th car's low, smooth shape (admittedly not to all tastes) means very little wind noise and it is only because everything else is so quiet that you do sometimes notice some transmission whine or tyre rumble on broken surfaces.



The Jaguar XJS—more power, less fuel

The ride/handling compromise, to my mind at least, is very successful, more so than on German cars like the Mercedes and Porsche where taut handling can mean a very firm ride. The XJS bumps a little over rough roads, particularly at low speed, but generally proceeds most smoothly and the suspension is well enough damped to prevent wallow.

The one serious criticism is that the power steering, though admirably light and high geared, does not have enough feel and that can be a drawback when the going is slippery. But there can be few complaints about the brakes, an all-disc system that stops the car quickly

Automatic transmission is now standard. Jaguar uses the General Motors' 400 three-speed box, which gives almost imperceptible changes, whether in normal acceleration or kickdown. The selector gate has been sensibly revised, so that there is now a stop between drive and neutral and not (as before) between drive and second; but movements from one position to another should be easier.

The low roof line means a tall person having to duck to get into the car and a driving position that is more horizontal than usual. There is plenty of legroom lengthwise but I could have done with more space to rest the idle left foot.

The trouble with low-slung cars is that they are not easy to see out of and in the case of the XJS, with its thick rear pillars, visibility is particularly poor. Another blind spot is created by the large outside door mirror.

Accommodation is strictly two-plus-two. Even with the front seat pushed fully forward, it is a struggle to squeeze into the back and once there only a very small adult will find enough head or legroom. The boot is very deep but length is restricted by the spare wheel, which stands upright at the far end.

To give the cockpit more of a quality look Jaguar has added a polished elm veneer to the fascia and door cappings and extended the Connolly hide upholstery to the centre console and the door and quarter panels. People kept asking me if the elm was genuine, so obviously those little touches are noticed.

The car offers most of the labour-saving gadgets, such as a central locking system (which does not extend to the boot), electric window lifts and electrically operated outside mirror adjustment. Most welcome, though, is the standard air-conditioning system. Instead of twiddling a lot of knobs, you simply set the desired temperature and modern science does the rest.

A new standard item on the XJS is the Philips 900 stereo radio and cassette player, controlled by a micro-computer and able to "store" up to 60 selected frequencies. There is automatic tuning.

I hope to report on the new Mercedes coupes shortly but meanwhile the XJS is the one to beat. Some cars go virtually as fast but none can match its comfort and refinement. The £818 reduction, made possible by greater productivity, brings down the price to £18,950, and if Jaguar can convince its customers that the quality and reliability troubles really are over, the car should fear competition from no one.

Big car blues

In a discussion last week on the future of the executive car, I passed on the thought that the mass producers could eventually pull out of that part of the market and leave it to the more specialized companies. Figures I have since obtained seem to support that idea.

They show that while most of the volume producers have been losing sales steadily, in some cases rapidly, in the last couple of years those companies making only big cars have actually been selling more.

Although still the market leader, the Ford Granada has shown the most spectacular decline. In 1979, Granada sales were around 50,000; in the first 10 months of this they were just over 20,000. The Rover, which was selling 30,000 units two years ago, has, so far managed 19,760 this year.

Sales of the Audi 100 have almost halved in the past two years, while the big Renaults and Peugeots have suffered a similar drop in the past 12 months alone. Volvo was down by 14 per cent last year and by a further 8 per cent this year.

Compare all this with Mercedes, whose share of the excutive class has risen by 29 per cent this year, with Saab, up 22 per cent, and BMW, up 14 per cent. There are no obvious reasons for this disparity, except, possibly, that Merecedes and Saab owners tend to stay loyal

The executive car segment as a whole is difficult to define; it depends which models you put in and which you leave out. But on one calculation (Volvo's), it declined by 30 per cent last year, compared with 1979, and has shown a further 14 per cent drop during 1981.

According to Volvo, the executive car in 1973 took 11.6 per cent of all new car registrations. That figure fell to 11 per cent by 1975 in the wake of the first oil crisis; recovered year by year until 1979, when it was 12.8 per cent; and is now running at only 9.1 per cent.

Volvo predicts a modest revival in 1982, while other forecasts are more pessimistic.

". . . HELP US, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name; and deliver us, and purge away our sins, for thy name's sake." Psalm 79:9.

BIRTHS

BAMFORD.—On 25th November, at R.A.F. Hospital, Ely, to Janie (nee Faure Walker) and Richard, a son, John Brian Richard, a brother for Peggy.
FITZPATRICK.—On November 20th, to Margaret (nee Coe) and Clinton, a son (Kit Sebastian), a brother for Oliver.
GOALEN.—On 26th November, at University College Hospital, to Karen and Martin—a son, a brother for Alexander.
LLEWELLYN.—On November 19th at John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Heather and Trefor, a daughter (Catrin Sarah Mallet).
POCOCK.—On 25th November to Gina (nee Kerruck) and Nick, a son.
SMITH.—On the 24th of November, in Manila, to Nicola (nee Smales) and Douglas—a son (Toby Richard Hertz), a brother for Benjamin and Hugo.
STEPHANY.—On 23rd November to Jane (nee Stone) and Robert, a son, Alexander Mark.
STYLE.—On 24 Nov., at Torbay Hospital, to Charlotte (Woodford) and Charles—a daughter.
WARD.—On November 23rd, at Guys Hospital, to Angela (nee Grant) and Martyn, a son (Christopher Martyn).
YATES.—On November 17th, at St. Thomas's Hospital, to Wendy and Charles—a son.

DEATHS

BAKER.—On 24th November, 1981, peacefully in hospital, Charles William Baker, aged 75, of Oxshott, Surrey, beloved husband of Doris and dear father of Brenda and poppa to Kathryn, John and Mary-Jane. Funeral service at St. Andrew's Church, Oxshott, on Monday, 30th November, at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to Cancer Research Fund, c/o Royal Marsden Hospital, Sutton, Surrey. Memorial service at Dulwich College Chapel on Monday, 7th December, at 2.30 p.m.
BESSE.—Lady Hilda Besse, on November 25th in Cannes, aged 93, wife of the late Antonin Besse, K.B.E., mother of Ariane, Peter, Antonin and Monna, and all her grandchildren. No flowers please. A memorial service will take place at a later date.
DARBISHIRE.—On 25th November, Antony Travers (Tony), aged 72 years, peacefully at West Middleton, Hauxwell, Richmond, Yorks. Funeral Service to be held at St Mary's Church, Wycliffe, on Saturday, 28th November, at 11.30 a.m. Family flowers only please.
DIXON.—On Wednesday, 25th November, at home, Beryl Roza Luis, daughter of the late George and Mabel Fernandes, widow of John Alexander Dixon, mother of Anthea Cooke-Yarborough and Rhona Miszewska, grandmother of James, Nicholas and Katie Burgess, and of Anthony and Jane Cooke-Yarborough and great grandmother of Victoria Burgess. Funeral on Friday, 4th December, at 1.15 p.m., at St Dionis Church, Parsons Green, followed by service at Putney Vale crematorium. Interment of ashes later in Dorset.
GORDON.—On November 25th, 1981, peacefully in hospital after a long illness so bravely fought, Joan, beloved wife of Colonel Jack Gordon and much loved mother of Lesley and Robert. Funeral service at St Bartholomew's Church, Burwash, on December 2nd, at 2 p.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please, but donations, if desired, to Cancer Research Campaign may be sent to C. Waterhouse and Sons, High St., Burwash.
MAY.—On 25th November, 1981, at his home in Hale, Cheshire, Nicholas, a dearly loved husband, father, son and brother. The funeral has taken place. Enquiries to: Messrs John G. Ashton and Co. Telephone 061938 7816.
NESBITT.—On 24th November, very peacefully in Cheltenham, Etheldreda Mary Frances (Eve) Nesbitt, wife of the late Surgeon Commander R. W. Nesbitt, the Royal Navy, most dearly loved mother of Stephanie and the late Robert, dear mother-in-law of Marie and much loved grandmother and great grandmother.
PEART.—On 26th November, Donald Richard Peart, emeritus Professor of Music, Sydney University, suddenly in Sydney.
PICKETT.—On November 14th, peacefully in a nursing home, Claude Howard Saville Pickett. Cremation has taken place.
POLLEY.—On November 26th, 1981, peacefully in Crawley Hospital, Joan Evelyn (nee Wightwick), aged 56 years, of 20 Springfield Park Road, Horsham, dearly loved wife of Douglas, mother of Graham, Michael and Diana, and a much loved grandmother. "With Christ". Funeral service at Denne Road Gospel Hall, Horsham, on Monday, November 30th, at 11.30 a.m., followed by interment at Hills Cemetery, Horsham. Flowers may be sent to Freeman Brothers, Funeral Directors, Horsham.
ROBERTS.—On November 21st at Aycliffe, co Durham, Reginald Gordon Seymour, husband of Milo, father of Judith and Jane. Funeral has taken place privately.
RUSSELL, ALLAN HOLMES, MBE, DSC.—On November 24 at Royal Hants County Hospital, Winchester, aged 62 years. Husband of Nan and father of Tim and Posy. Funeral service at Itchen Abbas parish church on Monday, November 30 at 2.00 p.m., cremation private, family flowers only, donations if desired to Missions to Seamen, c/o John Steel & Son, Chesil House, Winchester.
SHANKLAND.—On 24th November, in Middlesex Hospital, London, after a short illness, William Lamble Baillie Shankland, aged 55. Beloved husband of Isobel and father of Jane and Andrew. Funeral private and family flowers only, but donations in lieu may be sent to: HEART, 47 Wimpole St., London W1M 7DG. Memorial service will be held at St. James's Church, Christleton, near Chester, at 1 p.m. on Friday, 4th December.
THOMSON.—On November 25th, 1981, peacefully at Basildon Hospital, aged 84, George Ewart Thomson, dearly loved husband of Marjory, and father of Peter, Richard, Nicholas and Fiona. Funeral Service at Hutton and Shenfield Union Church, Hutton...

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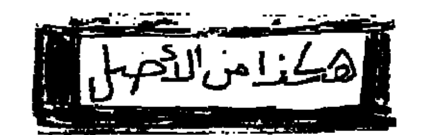
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

9.00 For Schools, Colleges: Subjects include Physical Science (X-rays and radioactivity) at 9.00, Swim at 9.25, Part nine of Dark Towers at 9.52, Hyn o Fyd (California) at 11.00, and Going to Work (getting on with others) at 11.40; Closedown at 12.00; 12.20 News After Noon: with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Winners of the 1981 Nursing Awards receive their prizes from Cliff Richard. There are six finalists; 1.45 The Flumps: for the younger viewer; 2.02 For Schools and Colleges: Scene (why prejudice?) and, at 2.35, A Good Job with Prospects (protecting the public). Closedown at 3.00; 3.20 For Welsh viewers — Ina (Deigryn un y Llwch; 3.55 Play School: See BBC2, 11.00 for details.

4.20 Undercover Elephant: cartoon; 4.25 Jackanory: Martin Jarvis reads part two of Helen Young's What Difference Does it Make, Danny?; 4.40 Captain Caveman: cartoon.

4.50 Crackerjack: Fun and games With Andy Mann as the special guest. 5.35 The Amazing Adventures of Morph. With Tony Hart (r).

5.40 News: with Richard Baker. Also weather; 6.00 Regional news magazine; 6.22 Nationwide. Including Desmond Lynam's Sportswide item at 6.45.

7.00 Whatever Happened to the Likely Lads: Midnight discussions on the meaning and mystery of life. With James Bolam, Rodney Bewes (r).

7.30 Terry and June: A demonstration of It's a Knockout costumes gets mixed up with the arrival for dinner of the chairman of Terry's company. With Terry Scott, June Whitfield.

8.00 Kessler: Episode 3 of the drama serial about a former SS chief in Belgium, now an industrialist in Germany. A young Israeli girl (Nitza Saul) is one of several people planning to get even with him.

8.50 Points of View: Barry Took comments on viewers' letters.

9.00 News: with John Simpson.

9.25 Starsky and Hutch: There's a robbery at a ghetto poker game — and one of the players gets murdered (r).

10.15 On the Town: Entertainment in London: Joan Bakewell and Bob Wellings are the presenters; with Pam Ayres and featuring Trafford Tanzi (the life and times of a woman wrestler); and the photographs of Bill Brandt.

10.45 News headlines.

10.50 Film: Ned Kelly (1970) Tony Richardson's film about the 19th century Australian outlaws the Kelly Band. Mick Jagger plays Kelly. Also starring Allen Bickford, Geoff Gilmour, Mark McManus, Clarissa Kaye and Serge Lazareff. Ends at 12.35am.

BBC 1 VARIATIONS:— BBC CYMRU/WALES 12.57-1.00 pm News. 1.45-2.00 Y Cowbol Bach. 2.35 — I Ysgolion: 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 4.50-5.15 Screen Test. 5.15 — Slop Sjafins. 6.00-6.22 Wales today. 7.00-7.30 Heddiw. 7.30-8.00 Fo a Fe. 10.15-11.5 Week in Week Out. 11.5-11.8 News. 11.8-12.29 am Film Davy (Harry Secombe). 12.29 Close. SCOTLAND 11.00-11.22 am For schools: 12.55-1.00 News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 6.00-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.45 Sink or Swim. 10.45-10.50 News: 12.35 Close. NORTHERN IRELAND 11.00-11.22 Closedown. 12.57-1.00 pm News. 3.20-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 News 6.00-6.22 Scene around six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 12.55 am News. ENGLAND 6.00-6.22 pm. Regional news magazines 10.15-10.45 East — Weekend. Midlands — Day out. North — on Location. North East — Coast to Coast. North West — Unlucky for Some. South — The Ian Wooldridge Interview (with Jimmy Greaves). South West — West Country Tales. West — Down the Club.

BBC 2

11.00 Play School: Leila Berg's story Grandad's Clock. With Joan Beale's illustrations; 11.25 Closedown; 3.55 International Pro-Celebrity Golf.



Jamie Roberts Playhouse (BBC2, 9.30 pm)

4.45 War At Sea: The Raid on St Nazaire. Michael Burn, MC, former commando captain, tells the story of Operation Chariot in 1942.

5.35 Film: Tarzan's Secret Treasure* (1941) It's not just the river that interests a visiting professor (Reginald Owen): it's something less scientific and more dramatic — and troublesome. With Johnny Weissmuller, Maureen O'Sullivan and Johnny Sheffield, as Boy.

6.55 News.

7.00 The Oxford Road Show: Hot Gossip and the Blues Band.

7.40 Hold Down a Chord: Part 3 of this 10-part course for learner guitarists.

7.55 In the Country: A film about pigeons — feral, racing and tumbling.

8.25 Newsweek: Trade union law, in the Norman Tebbit era.

9.00 The Mike Harding Show: Another of Mr Harding's one-man shows from the Grand Theatre in Blackpool. He devotes no less than 25 minutes to a joke about Attila the Budgie.

9.30 Playhouse: The Grudge Fight. John Hale's play is set in a Royal Naval Training Establishment in Cornwall in 1941. Jamie Roberts and Michael Packer play the two young apprentices who take a dislike to each other on their way to the camp. David Daker is the able seaman who has a considerable impact on the relationship between the two young men.

10.45 Newsnight: news bulletins and comment on the main stories of the day.

11.30 Friday Night . . . Saturday Morning: Chat show, compered tonight tonight by Maria Aitken, the actress and writer. This is the first time she has acted as MC for a show like this. Ends at 12.25 am.

ITV/LONDON

9.35 For Schools Subjects include The Living Body (bacteria and viruses) at 10.09; Evolution — A level at 10.26; Biology A level at 10.48; Stop, Look, Listen (the work of a butcher) at 11.22; and The Secret Life of the Man Shearwater, at 11.34; 12.00 A Handful of Songs; 12.10 Once Upon a Time: with Mark Wynter; 12.30 100% Responsibility: Society's attitude to one-parent families. With Lynda Chalker, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Social Services; 1.00 News; 1.20 Thames news; 1.30 Taff Acre: Dilys Mainwaring shocks her husband Harry; 2.00 After Noon Plus: Interview with Edward Heath in the wake of the Crosby poll result; 2.45 Film: The New Love Boat: Comedy about a luxury liner voyage.

4.15 Bons for a Bone: cartoon; 4.20 Storybook International: The Widow's Lazy Daughter, read by June Barrie.

4.45 World Gymnastics Championships 1981: The women's optional programmes, from Moscow. Great Britain is competing.

5.45 News; 6.00 Thames area news; 6.30 Thames Sport: The prospects for the weekend sport.

7.00 Survival Special: Falklands Summer. Film about the birds that invade these British-administered islands 350 miles off the coast of South America. There are fears that the wildlife balance could be upset if Argentina successfully claims sovereignty of the islands.

8.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right: with the Woolfords of Pontardulais, Swansea, and the Cunninghams of Feltham, Middlesex.

8.30 That's My Boy: Comedy about a dieting couple (Christopher Blake and Jennifer Lonsdale). With Mollie Sugden as the housekeeper. Last in the series.

9.00 The Gentle Touch: Someone has broken into the flat of a Jewish businessman and daubed the walls with anti-semitic slogans. He is convinced it was the work of local unemployed people. But Detective Inspector Maggie Forbes (Jill Gascoine) has other ideas. Co-starring Harry Towb, Gilliam Raine and Leslee Udwin.

10.00 News from ITN.

10.30 Soap: American comedy series about two crazy families, the Tates and the Campbells. Tonight, Danny discovers the true identity of his father and he and Chester are taken to hospital for surgery.

11.00 The London Programme: Peter Luckhurst was convicted in June of the murder of a 79-year-old spinster in the Kent village of Pluckley. He is now serving an indefinite sentence in jail. A local defence committee claims to have new evidence that proves he is innocent.

11.35 Police 5: with Shaw Taylor.

11.45 Strumpet City: Episode 4 of this story of Dubliners, based on James Plunkett's fine novel. Tonight: tragedy strikes Miss Gilchrist (Mairin D O'Sullivan).

12.45 Close: John Julius Norwich with a reading about nature.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs. Castaway: actress Diana Dors.
9.45 A Sideways look at... by Anthony Smith.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "Old Mother Mustard" by Fred Urquhart.
11.00 News.
11.05 You the Jury. Current and controversial issues are put on trial before Chairman Peter Jay and an audience of jurors in Broadcasting House.
11.50 Bird of the Week: The Wren.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours. News, views and advice for consumers.
12.27 The Senior Partner (series) Andrew Cruickshank in "Brothers in Law".
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: "Only Goodnight" by Maureen Duffy.
4.05 Poetry Please! † Listeners' requests.
4.15 Herbs, Useful Plants (3) Are Natural Things Really All That Safe?
4.45 Story Time: "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" (5).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News and Financial Report.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.†
8.10 Profile: A personal portrait.
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.35 Week Ending.†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Poor Mouth" by Flann O'Brien (5).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 Glyn Worsnip with recordings from the BBC Sound Archives.
12.00 News.

VHF: 6.25 am Weather. 9.05 For Schools. 10.30 Listen with Mother. 11.00 For Schools. 2.00 pm For Schools. 5.50 PM (continued). 11.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert. Bach, Pergolesi, Mozart, Berwald; records.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Mascagni, Glazunov, Liszt, Rimsky-Korsakov; records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer. Malcolm Williamson; records.†
10.00 Vivaldi and Pisendel. Chamber orchestra in Law".
10.35 Song Recital. Strauss, Rossini, Walter.†



Lord Mancroft: Any Questions? (Radio 4, 8.30 pm)

11.15 Gerd Seifert. The Principal Horn of the Berlin Philharmonic plays Mozart, Schubert and Beethoven; records.†
12.05 BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra. Concert. Part 1: Brahms.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Concert. Part 2: Shostakovich †
1.50 Cummings Trio. String Trio recital: Felice Giardini, Schubert, Martinu.†
2.35 Mendelssohn's Te Deum. A Netherlands Radio recording.†
3.15 Williamson and Maw (new series). First of four recitals of chamber music and songs by Malcolm Williamson and four of his English predecessors and contemporaries.†
4.00 Choral Evensong in Hereford Cathedral.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
6.55 Play it Again. Preview.†
7.00 Brahms. Piano music on record.†
7.30 Lindsay String Quartet. Recital. Part 1: Haydn, Barber.†
8.10 Songs of Don. Dr. Graham Hough reviews the new Oxford Book of Christian Verse.
8.30 Recital. Part 2: Borodin.†
9.10 BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. Concert. Walton, McCabe, Ginastera.†
10.10 Souvenirs of Chabrier. Third of two programmes in which Roger Nichols considers the art of Emmanuel Chabrier, with illustrations on record.†
11.00 News.
11.05 Rameau on record.†

Medium Frequency/Medium Wave as vhf above except: 7.5-11.15am. Cricket: First Test. England v India at Bombay. VHF Only — Open University: 11.20 pm-12.20am.

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.30 John Dunn.† 2.00 Ed Stewart.† 4.00 David Hamilton. 5.45 News. 6.00 Don Durbridge.† 8.00 Victor Silvester.† 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night † 10.00 Marks in his Diary (series).

10.30 The Bing Crosby Show (series) Special guests: Spike Jones and his City Slickers. 11.00 Brian Matthew † from midnight. 1.00 Truckers' Hour † 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2 7.00 Mike Read 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 Paul Burnett 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance † 12.00 midnight Close. VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2. 5.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648 kHz (463m) at the following times GMT — 6.00am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Guitar Workshop. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Overtime. 8.30 From Mull Goes Into. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Music Now. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 Brain of Britain. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Letter from London. 11.30 Merediun. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15pm Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. News Summary. 1.30 For the Wales. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Letter from America. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Letter from London. 9.55 Wave-guide. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Michael Strogoff. 12.00 World News. 12.09am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 The French Musaicke. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Three Centuries of Italian Opera. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BORDER

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Floods of Fear (Howard Keel, Anne Heywood). Two convicts, a warder, and a woman are trapped in a lonely house. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 That's Hollywood. 10.30 Issue. 11.00 Roots. 11.30 News. 11.33 Closedown.

GRANADA

As London except: 11.54am-12.00 Bubbles. 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live From Two. 2.45-4.15 Film: Jacqueline* (John Gregson, Kathleen Ryan). Irish family tries to cope with drunkard father. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.30-7.00 Kick Off. 10.30 Week on Friday. 11.00 Kinvig. 11.30 Film: Twins of Evil (Peter Cushing). Identical twins have to live with a grim uncle. 1.05 Closedown.

CHANNEL

As London except: 12.00 Closedown. 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Mask of Alexander Cross (Paul Shenar). 6.00 Channel Report. 6.35-7.00 Laurel and Hardy*. 10.28 News. 10.35 Soap. 11.05 Film: Whoever Slew Auntie Roo? (Shelley Winters). Widow's love of children is her downfall. 12.40am Closedown.

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Uncle Silas* (Jean Simmons, Katina Paxinou). A young girl is left to the mercy of her wicked uncle. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 11.10 Members Only. 11:30 Film: Fourth Sex (Chad Everett, James Daly). Complications over a sex-change operation. 1:10 am It's all in the Opera.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: in Name Only (Michael Callan, Ann Prentiss). Comedy as marriage consultants discover that three marriages they arranged are not legal. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Film: Killer Wih Two Faces (Donna Mills, Ian Hendry). A mental patient stands in for his twin brother, an architect. 12.20am Late Call 12.25 Closedown.

WESTWARD

As London except: 12.27pm Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 12.30 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Mask of Alexander Cross (Paul Shenar, Barbara Bach). 6.00-7.00 Westward Diary. 10.32 News. 10.35 Soap. 11.05 Film: Whoever Slew Auntie Roo? (Shelley Winters, Mark Lester). Widow's love of children is her downfall. 12.40am Faith for Life. 12.46 Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: starts 9.25am Good Word. 9.30-9.35 News. 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News; Lookaround. 2.45-4.15 Film: All Coppers Are . . . (Martin Potter, Julia Foster). Strangers at a wedding become boisterous friends. 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News. 10.32 Friday Live. 12.00 Superstar Profile: Liza Minnelli. 12.30am Three Faces of God. 12.35 Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 9.30am-9.35 First Thing. 12.30pm-1am Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.14 Film: Take My Life* (Hugh Williams, Greta Gynt). Murdered opera star's husband tries to prove his innocence. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 10.30 Film. Widow Couderc (Alain Delon, Simone Signoret). Georges Simenon's story of convict on the run. 12.10am News. 12.15 Closedown.

ULSTER

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45-4.15 Film: The Intruder (Jack Hawkins, Michael Medwin). A former Army officer recognizes an armed intruder in his home. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Lou Grant. 11.30 Bedtime, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Snowbound* (Herbert Lom, Robert Newton). Sinister thriller about winter at a lonely ski-hut in the Alps. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 11.00 Film: Traffic. The motorist comes under Jacques Tati's comic scrutiny 12.45am Closedown.

ATV

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News 2.45-4.15 Film: An Inspector Calls* (Alastair Sim, Eileen Moore). Screen version of J. B. Priestley's play. 6.00-7.00 ATV Today. 10.30 Going Out. 11.00 News. 11.05 Film: Fear is Spreading (Tandy Cronyn, Denholm Elliott). Journalist is held hostage by two convicts. 12.40am Closedown.

HTV

As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45 Cartoon. 2.50-4.15 Film Only With Married Men (David Birney, Michele Lee). Businesswoman makes a rule that she will only go out with married men. 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 Longest River: The Severn, Stroudwater to Lydney. 10.28 News. 10.30 Report Extra. 11.00 Film Oklahoma Kid (James Cagney, Humphrey Bogart). Land-hungry pioneers rush to stake their claims in Oklahoma. 12.35 am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 10.48 am-11.C3 Y Byd A'i Bethau. 11.34 About Wales. 11.50 Cartoon. 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 1.30-2.00 Happy Days. 4.15-4.45 Mamau Ifanc Yr Affrig. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Taff Acre. 10.30-11.00 Outlook.

SOUTHERN

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Fit for Living. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Anatomy of Seduction (Susan Flannery). Divorcee has an affair with her best friend's son. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.00 Scene South East. 6.30-7.00 Out of Town. 10.35 Film. Bluebeard (Raquel Welch, Richard Burton). Bluebeard's wife finds the bodies of seven women in his castle vault. 12.50am Weather followed by Thinking Aloud.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN † STEREO * BLACK AND WHITE (r) REPEAT

CHOICE

Mick Jagger has the title role in Ned Kelly (BBC1, 10.50 pm).

● NED KELLY (BBC 1, 10.50 pm), Tony Richardson's film about the nineteenth-century Australian outlaw and his gang of bandits, fared only marginally better at the hand of the critics than did his Charge o the Light Brigade, made two years earlier. Seeing it again, a decade later, we are made only too aware of Ned Kelly's failings. Visually, it is poetic to the point of obsession and the narrative thrust is epileptic. Also the tendency to present Kelly as an embryo of the archetypical rebel student of the 1960s had the effect of dislocating the period structure. As to Mick Jagger's Kelly, it is ripe for reappraisal. I thought it was an impressive effort for a tiro. What a shame that so many of the lessons he learnt in the film seemed to have been forgotten when he made Performance two years later.

● FRIDAY NIGHT . . . SATURDAY MORNING (BBC 2, 11.30 pm) is presented for the first time, by Maria Aitken, the actress. But not only actress, of course. She is a writer on the arts, and her style is as intelligent as her acting. Sensibly, she has been provided tonight with studio guests who reflect the twin worlds she inhabits.

● THE GRUDGE FIGHT (BBC 2, 9.30 pm) is John Hale's dramatization of his own novel about two young naval apprentices who settle old scores that weren't of their making. It's a simple enough yarn and would have been best simply told, with a direct route being opened up between A and Z. Instead, it shoots off down all sorts of side streets and loses us, and itself, in the process. Diversions apart, it's an atmospherically impressive play, and it doesn't take a professional sociologist to recognise that its representation of class conflict is based on shrewd observation.

● ONLY GOODNIGHT (Radio 4, 3.03), a first play by Maureen Duffy, is about a remarkable literary and personal relationship, that between two Anglo-Irish cousins, Edith Somerville and Violet Martin, which lasted from 1880 until Martin's death in 1915. Miss Duffy has not, however, accepted death as the end of the affair. The two women continue to talk, across the grave. Mary Wimbush and Rosalind Adams play the two women whose love for each other was poured into their writing partnership.

Foot favours EEC U-turn in search for Labour unity

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Labour leaders are preparing the ground for a U-turn on Common Market withdrawal, to allow a referendum verdict by the voters.

The party conference last month decided by a block vote majority of 4,758,000 to oppose a referendum, and unless that conference verdict is overturned the party will be committed against a referendum at the next general election.

The left-wing argument has been that the electorate will have an opportunity to decide the question of withdrawal in the general election, and that argument is tinged with the suspicion that a referendum would be manipulated to maintain the status quo.

But it is understood that Mr Michael Foot is now leaning in favour of such a referendum as part of his continuing attempts to knit the party together behind an agreed policy.

Mr John Silkin, the new Shadow Cabinet spokesman on Defence and Disarmament, has already helped Labour unity by implying that there could be no unilateral nuclear disarmament without multilateral nuclear disarmament.

The appointment of Mr Eric Heffer, now an ardent anti-Marketeer, as opposition spokesman on European and Community affairs has been widely taken as an indication that Labour conference policy will be pursued to the hilt.

Some senior shadow ministers, however, are privately confident that Mr Heffer will compromise and relent on the referendum.

Friends of the new shadow minister believe that he is wavering, and will be persuaded to do an about-turn. For when he launches his preliminary negotiations with fellow European socialists, part of his new duties, he will learn that they will offer no cooperation on withdrawal.

Mr Foot and Mr Denis Healey, his deputy, have been told by President Mitterrand that he will not facilitate departure, but will present a powerful public case for continuing British membership of the Community.

It is a common belief among French political leaders, and the French public, that the Labour Party is not serious about withdrawal. They argue from direct experience that the Market would create no impediment to a government implementing socialist policies.

But the main pressure for compromise is coming from within the Shadow Cabinet. Mr Healey has apparently conceded the fine point made by Mr Wedgwood Benn that policy has to be clarified for the benefit of the voters and of the party.

He differs from Mr Benn, as does Mr Foot, in arguing that this entails a speedy reconciliation of the differing views held on defence and the EEC.

That would not be the end of the battle. Nothing in the Labour Party is ever that simple. There should be little difficulty in winning the agreement of the majority of the Parliamentary Labour Party in the Commons.

But Mr Heffer, Mr Foot and Mr Healey would also have to turn their attention to the more difficult task of turning the National Executive Committee. Such an alliance could well achieve the apparent impossible by working on the soft-left, executive "floaters" like Mr Neil Kinnock and Miss Joan Lestor.

Once the Shadow Cabinet, the PLP and the NEC have been turned, it would then be the turn of the big unions to face the argument. There were 5,380,000 votes against a referendum at Brighton last month, but it is thought that some unions, such as the General and Municipal Workers, could be won round.

All this, of coruse, omits one big obstacle, Mr Benn. He must already suspect what is in the wind, and he represents a powerful force against any such scheme, both in the constituencies and in the national executive.

The referendum also poses a problem of timing: Would it be taken before or after negotiations? A referendum would require legislation, and the ensuing delay could itself threaten the determination of a divided government to carry through the socialist policies which Labour is currently committed to.

Airline jet hijacked by fleeing raiders

Continued from page 1

former members of South African commando units.

The source said that the coup had been planned for some time and involved the infiltration into the Seychelles of groups of mercenaries posing as tourists.

The mercenaries involved in the fighting at Mahé airport apparently arrived on a regular flight from Swaziland at 6.30 pm yesterday. According to one version of what happened, the shooting started whe customs officials discovered weapons in the baggage of one of the men.

The Air India Boeing landed about three hours later to find itself in the middle of a battle. The pilot, Captain S. N. C. Misra, told The Times that at first he had been unable to get any response when he radioed the control tower for landing clearance and he had started to alter course for Mauritius.

Captain Misra said that he was then contacted by the control tower and told to come in. He realised something was badly wrong when he saw army vehicles partially blocking the runway as he came in to land. He avoided tow but clipped a third, damaging a wing tip, and pulled up just before the end of the runway, a few yards from the sea.

A Briton abroad the aircraft, Mr David Benning, marketing manager of the Zimbabwe Sun Hotels group, said he and his fellow assengers spent a frightening couple of hours in the dark listening to mortar shells exploding and the crackle of small arms fire.

"Suddenly the door opened and these guys walked in", Mr Benning said. He counted 36 although other passengers said there were 40. he men had brought a corpse, apparently one of their number killed in the fighting. And one had an arm wound.

Captain Misra said that some of the hijackers were clearly South African but the others might have been New Zealanders, Rhodesians, British "and the odd American".

☐ Nairobi: The Seychelles Government announced that the situation was under control. Seychelles Radio said that the islands' arme dforces, having foiled the attempted takeover, were hunting for members of the invading force (Charles Harrison writes).



The Prince of Wales receiving his honorary doctorate in London yesterday.

Doctor of Music? I don't deserve it

The Prince of Wales last night became a Doctor of Music of the Royal College of Music. He said afterwards that he did not think he deserved it.

The prince, whose doctorate is only the third in the college's 100-year history said: "I don't feel in any way that I come up to the required standard to merit such an honour, but I am getting rather used to receiving such things".

The Queen Mother, patron of the college for 43 years and its president for 29 years, conferred the honour on her grandson. He said that the Queen Mother had aroused his interest in music. She took him to see the Bolshoi Ballet in Covent Garden when he was six.

"She has a particular gift to make something like that enormous fun and it established a real interest in music", he said.

Sir David Willcocks said that the prince was only the third Doctor of Music the college had appointed. The others were Queen Mary in 1933 and the Queen Mother 40 years later. The prince had been given his doctorate because of his patronage of music

☐ The dying wish of Gunnar Nilsson, Sweden's ace racing driver, came true yesterday when a cancer treatment centre was opened by Princess Anne at Charing Cross Hospital, London.

Nilsson died of cancer at the hospital three years ago. Knowing that he was dying, he set up a campaign to raise money to help other cancer sufferers.

Arab world polarizes East and West after summit debacle

From Tewfiq Mishlawi, Beirut, Nov 26

The collapse of the twelfth Arab summit in Fez was received in most of the Arab world with shock and disappointment. Whatever degree of Arab solidarity existed before the summit convened has now been shattered, proving once more that a common Arab strategy on the conflict with Israel is—as it has always been—impossible.

The Saudis had counted too heavily on the support of Mr Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization leader but Mr Arafat, who laboured strenuously to bring about a degree of Arab consensus on the Saudi plan in the week before the summit, was overruled not only by his Arab allies, Syria, Libya and Iraq, but also by the majority of the 15-member executive committee of the PLO.

The Arab hardline states had indicated their objections to a debate on the Saudi peace plan despite Saudi assurances that the proposals were open to amendment. The Saudi leaders themselves modified the plan to allow for a Soviet role in the peacemaking process.

They acknowledged that the proposed independent Palestinian state would be led by the PLO and emphasized that the scheme should not be regarded as a unilateral Saudi initiative. The summit was specifically intended to debate the plan and to produce a collective Arab substitute for the American-sponsored Camp David peace process which the Saudis and most other Arab nations have rejected.

Crown Prince Fahd's tacit assurances that the United States would support and accept the plan only if there was secure Arab backing for it, were not enough to change the minds of the radical Arab leaders. President Assad of Syria, who wanted a postponement of the Arab debate on the plan, called on the Saudi leaders to secure first of all "the unconditional and unreserved acceptance of the plan by the United States and Israel and then present it to discussion at summit level".

The collapse of the Fez summit was a severe blow not only to Saudi Arabia, whose role and influence in the region had been rapidly increasing, but also to Arab solidarity in the struggle with Israel. The first serious blow came when President Sadat visited Jerusalem in 1977, a step which was followed by the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

The discussion which took place in the four-hour summit yesterday verged on acrimony, as delegates argued over the right of absentee heads of state to take decisions on war and peace. They wrangled over whether it was permissible to use words like "treasonable" and "etrayal" to describe the Saudi peace plan.

According to Arab sources in Beirut, Crown Prince Fahd expressed particular anger at his critics for "insulting me personally" during the debate on the plan. Mr Arafat has been particularly embarrassed in his relations with the Saudis because he ultimately threw his weight behind the Arab states opposing the Fahd proposals. But the Saudi Prince, according to a report in Beirut, assured Mr Arafat of continued Saudi support for the PLO. The report quoted Prince Fahd as telling Mr Arafat: "We support you now as we always did. If you wish, we shall draw the cheques for you right now."

The left-wing press in Beirut today regarded the outcome of the summit as a victory for the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front comprising Syria, Libya, Algeria, South Yemen and the PLO. The immediate result of the summit collapse is therefore likely to be further polarization of the Arab world between East and West—between the conservative pro-Western Arab block and the Soviet-backed group of states.

Saudi Arabia may now adopt an inward-looking policy. The Saudis may be able, through their burgeoning oil revenues, to keep Arab criticism to a minimum; but they may now decide to reconsider their overall foreign policy. One thing they may pay more attention to is the strengthening of the newly-established Gulf Cooperation Council, which groups the six countries which supported the Fahd proposal.

Balance of peace, page 8
Leading article, page 15

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Tomorrow's events

The Duchess of Gloucester attends ball in aid of Handicapped Children's Aid Committee, Grosvenor House, Park Lane, 7.10.

Exhibitions in provinces

Paintings by William Baxter, Aberdeen Art Gallery, 10 to 5; paintings and drawings by Paul Niszczak, Datchet Gallery, Datchet, Berkshire, 10 to 5.30; Liverpool Playhouse's seventieth anniversary, City Libraries, William Brown Street, Liverpool, 9 to 5.

Talks

"Dutch seascapes", by Audrey P. Tyndall, National Gallery, 12; "Twentieth-century movements: social realism", by Laurence Bradbury, Tate Gallery, 3; "Athena and the Parthenon", by Patsy Vanags, British Museum, 11.30; festival of humanities: talks on four topics, King's College, Strand, 10.30 to 5.30; "Oil men of the North Sea", by F. Habgood, Geological Museum, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, 2.30; flowers of chalk and limestone, Natural History Museum, 3.

Music

"Music for a medieval castle", Purcell Room, South Bank, 7.30; Mike Osborne Trio workshop, with audience participation for 12 to 18-year-olds, Round House gallery, 2.

Music in provinces

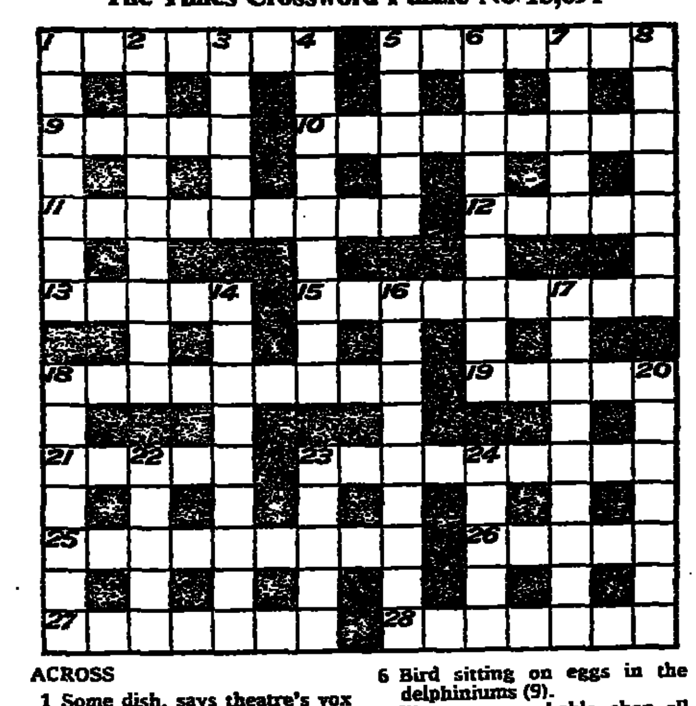
Northern Sinfonia children's concerts, Newcastle upon Tyne Playhouse, 11 and 2.30; City of Birmingham Choir, Birmingham Town Hall, 7.30; charity concert, for Somali refugees, St Thomas's, Pear Tree Road, Normanton, Derby, 7.

Shows and fairs

British Red Cross sale of work, Guildhall, 10.30; Godolphin and Latymer School traditional English Christmas fair, Iffley Road, Hammersmith, 10 to 3; Letchworth Garden City fifth annual ideas and book fair, North Hertfordshire College, Broadway, Letchworth, 10 to 6; Highgate Society Christmas crafts fair, 10a South Grove, Highgate, 10 to 4.30.

Memorial services: Professor E. G. T. Liddell, Trinity College, Oxford, noon; Mr C. F. W. R. Gullick, St Mary the Virgin, Oxford, noon.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,691



ACROSS
1 Some dish, says theatre's vox populi (7).
5 Clumsy fellows talk about ill-gotten gains (7).
9 Championship of the right (5).
10 Respect for a character (9).
11 One point to consider in tour from place to place (9).
12 Runs in bar for a sharpener (5).
13 Set for example in reverse gear (3-2).
15 Wire-pulling gets us a chimney in the pub by the church (9).
18 What made North once idle? (9).
19 Only ringing about the plinth (5).
21 Al's tail-less bird (5).
23 First principles – little cash in little pigs (9).
25 "Not long without a drink" – a solo performance (9).
26 About a thousand railwaymen in Belgium (5).
27 Pointed reply in prose it might appear (7).
28 Get half of them finished, corrected (7).

DOWN
1 Apostasy, a job for a dog (7).
2 Freed to dance in the nude, perhaps (9).
3 Poplar's third man, note (5).
4 Two drinking places, one an awfully rough one (9)
5 A slip-up doesn't finish the foreman (5).
6 Bird sitting on eggs in the delphiniums (9).
7 West — remarkable chap all round. He's got something (5).
8 Jack's up here to soak the French (7).
14 Recantations by poet's friendly collaborator (9).
16 Competitors — a passenger gets the bird (9).
17 Prison specified by friends so called (9).
18 Put revenue on one side for the successor (7).
20 Made safe of course, finally (7).
22 One point in young Fido's attractive picture (3-2).
23 Rob the old magistrate, say? (5).
24 Chop logic perhaps, but do not so use words (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 15,690.

- Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

Auctions today

Bonham, Montpelier Street: General ceramics, 11. Bonhams, Royal Commonwealth Society Hall, Northumberland Avenue: Stamp sale, 5.30. Christie's, King Street: Continental pictures of nineteenth and twentieth centuries, including those of Russian interest, 10.30. Christie's, South Kensington: Art nouveau and art deco, 10.30; bibliographical reference books, 10.30; dolls 2. Phillips, Blenheim Street: Silver and plate, 11. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Carpets and Continental furniture, 11. Sotheby's, Belgravia: Dolls, games and toys, 10.30. King's Lynn Town Hall: Sale of pictures, manuscripts, autographed and other items, 7.30.

Last chance to see . . .

European photography 81, National Theatre; paintings and drawings by Jane Ford, 12 to 7.30, 35 King St Gallery, Bristol; Harry Turner, Wolverhampton Art Gallery; George Devlin, Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh; experimental photography, Christ's Hospital arts centre, Horsham; all end tomorrow.

The Times list of best-selling books

Drama

Strife	John Galsworthy	Duckworth	£1.95
New Penguin Shakespeare: Hamlet		Penguin	£1
Lark Rise to Candleford	Keith Dewhurst	Hutchinson	£2.50
The Barber of Seville and the Marriage of Figaro	Beaumarchais	Penguin	£1.50
Waiting for Godot	Samuel Beckett	Faber	95p

Photography

Me and my Camera	Joe Partridge	Ash & Grant	£4 85
The Most Beautiful Women	Patrick Lichfield	Hamish Hamilton	£10.00
Successful Colour Photography		Collins	£10.85
David Bailey's Book of Photography		Dent	£14.95
Starting Photography	Michael Langford	Focal Press	£3.50

The Times list is based on trade sales through Hammick's to 400 bookshops and verified retail sales through Hammick's bookshops and 20 others.

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.71	1.64
Austria Sch	31.90	29.80
Belgium Fr	83.00	79.00
Canada $	2.36	2.27
Denmark Kr	14.35	13.65
Finland Mkk	8.77	8.32
France Fr	11.34	10.74
Germany DM	4.49	4.25
Greece Dr	121.00	113.00
Hongkong $	11.34	10.74
Ireland Pt	1.26	1.21
Italy Lir	2400.00	2300.00
Japan Yn	444.00	418.00
Netherlands Gld	4.89	4.65
Norway Kr	11.55	10.95
Portugal Esc	130.00	123.00
South Africa Rd	1.87	1.71
Spain Pta	192.50	183.50
Sweden Kr	10.97	10.43
Switzerland Fr	3.62	3.40
USA $	1.99	1.92
Yugoslavia Dur	93.00	87.00

London: The FT Index fell 0.1 to 526.1.

Sporting fixtures

Football: Third division, Southend United v Reading, 7.30.

Racing: National Hunt meetings, Leicester, 12.45, Newbury 1.

Snooker: UK professional championship, Preston Guild Hall, 11, 2.45 and 7.30.

Squash rackets: Welsh open championship, Wrexham SRC.

Real Tennis: Open singles and doubles championship, Queen's Club, West Kensington.

Food prices

Prices of beef and of British lamb continue high and may show further increases this weekend. New Zealand lamb is being promoted in a number of shops. Pork and bacon prices are generally steady.

Spanish and Italian grapes are cheap and abundant, as are oranges and satsumas. Brussels sprouts, cabbages, cauliflowers and most root vegetables are reasonably priced and of high quality.

Today's anniversaries

Chaim Weizmann, first President of Israel, was born at Motyli, Poland, in 1874.

The papers

The Daily Mirror today continues its pursuit of hunting after yesterday's spread of pictures of hounds killing a fox in a village street. Fox-hunting is a barbarity, the paper says. "Stag-hunting is even more repulsive. There is no pretence that pursuing a terrified beast is necessary to keep down the numbers. It is done for enjoyment. For pleasure. For excitement. It is no better than bear-baiting. It is as disgraceful as bull-fighting." The paper concludes that perhaps Parliament will end the sport. "In the meantime, it would help if the Royal Family stopped taking part."

The Stuttgarter Zeitung said yesterday of President Brezhnev's Bonn visit that it was a total success. "The meeting was a model of what sane and vigorous German foreign policy can produce."

Roads

Scotland: A82/A85: Crianlarich area, several roadworks; delays. A9: Two-way traffic on northbound carriageway, just north of Stonehaven. Temporary lights at Blair Atholl, south of Pitlochry, Ballinluig and Auchterarder. A930: Road closed between Carnoustie and Muirdrum; diversion.

North: M6: Lanes closed between Warrington exits; delays. A1: Barrier repairs between Selby fork and Wetherby roundabout.

Wales and West: M5: Between junction 17 and 18 (Bristol) only outside lane open southbound, two-way flow northbound. A40/A449: Near Monmouth, two-way traffic on one carriageway through tunnel. A5: Delays at Ogwen Pass, between Holyhead and Betws-y-Coed.

Information from Automobile Association.

Parliament today

Commons, 9.30: Private member's motion on information technology.

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Weather

Pressure will remain low to the N of Scotland as a frontal trough over S England quickly moves SE.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S England, East Anglia and Midlands (E): Cloudy with outbreaks of rain at first, becoming brighter and mostly dry; wind W, moderate or fresh; max temp 8 to 9C (46 to 48F).

E, central N and NE England: Mostly dry with some sunny intervals; wind W, moderate or fresh; max temp 6 to 7C (43 to 45F).

Midlands (W), Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, N Ireland and Argyll: Sunny intervals, showers; wind NW, fresh or strong; max temp 6 to 7C (43 to 45F).

Channel Islands and SW England: Cloudy with outbreaks of rain at first, becoming brighter with a few showers; wind W to NW, fresh or strong; max temp 8 to 9C (46 to 48F).

Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow and central Highlands: Mostly dry with sunny intervals; wind W, moderate or fresh; max temp 5 to 6C (41 to 43F).

Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney and Shetland: Mostly cloudy with a few bright intervals, wintry showers; wind W, fresh or strong; max temp 4 to 5C (39 to 41F).

Outlook for Saturday and Sunday: Unsettled, mostly rather cold with night frost in places, but becoming mild in SW.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SH, veering W, strong or gale; sea very rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind W, veering NW, 6 to gale 8, perhaps severe gale 9; sea very rough.

Sun rises: 7.38 am | Sun sets: 3.58 pm
Moon rises: 8.7 am | Moon sets: 4.52 pm
First quarter: December 4.

Lighting up time

London 4.28 pm to 7.9 am
Bristol 4.38 pm to 7.19 am
Edinburgh 4.18 pm to 7.44 am
Manchester 4.27 pm to 7.27 am
Penzance 4.56 pm to 7.25 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	c	11	52	Guernsey	c	11	52
Birmingham	f	9	48	Inverness	c	10	50
Blackpool	c	10	50	Jersey	c	11	52
Bristol	d	11	52	London	c	10	50
Cardiff	r	11	52	Manchester	c	10	50
Edinburgh	c	11	52	Newcastle	c	12	54
Glasgow	c	12	54	Ronaldsway	c	11	52

London

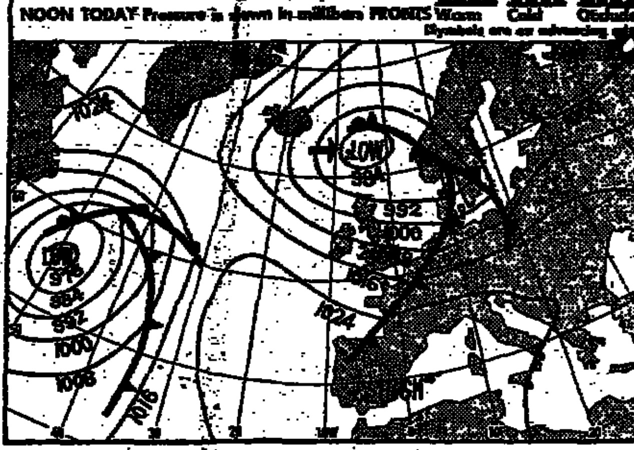
Temp: max, 6 am to 6 pm, 12C (54F); min, 6 pm to 6 am, 4C (39F). Humidity: 6 pm, 85 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 1hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,020.8 millibars, falling. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 236R: 04.46-04.47; ESE*; 20ESE; ESE and 06.19-06.23; WSW*; 30SW; SSE. Aryabhata R: 05.54-05.59; SSW; 30SE; E. Salyut 6: 18.11-18.13; W; 40SSW; SSW*.

Predictions from Earth Satellite Unit, Aston University, Birmingham.





b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.06	7.1	2.20	7.0
Aberdeen	1.24	4.1	1.42	4.2
Avonmouth	7.33	12.8	7.46	12.6
Belfast	11.23	3.3	11.36	3.3
Cardiff	7.18	11.9	7.31	11.6
Devonport	5.57	5.5	6.13	5.4
Dover	11.22	6.6	11.42	6.6
Falmouth	5.27	5.3	5.43	5.2
Glasgow	12.53	4.9	1.29	5.0
Harwich			12.13	3.9
Holyhead	10.34	5.5	10.49	5.3
Hull	6.32	7.2	6.48	7.2
Ilfracombe	6.08	8.9	6.24	8.8
Leith	2.45	5.3	3.03	5.3
Liverpool	11.34	9.0	11.50	8.8
Lowestoft	9.41	2.4	10.12	2.5
Margate	12.05	4.7	12.19	4.7
Milford Haven	6.27	6.6	6.41	6.5
Newquay	5.17	6.6	5.31	6.5
Oban	5.57	4.0	5.59	3.9
Penzance	4.52	5.6	5.08	5.5
Portland	7.15	2.1	7.25	2.0
Portsmouth	12.43	4.6		
Shoreham	11.23	6.0	11.43	5.9
Swansea	6.35	9.3	6.50	9.2
Southampton	11.08	4.5	11.30	4.4
Tees	3.50	5.3	4.04	5.4
Walton-on-the-Naze			12.03	4.1

Tide height in metres: 1m = 3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarborough	—	—	12	54	Cloudy	Colwyn Bay	—	—	14	57	Cloudy
Bridlington	—	—	11	52	Cloudy	Southport	—	.05	12	54	Drizzle
Cromer	0.2	—	10	50	Cloudy	Blackpool	—	.05	11	52	Rain
Lowestoft	0.6	—	10	50	Cloudy	Morecambe	—	.09	11	52	Showers
Clacton	1.8	—	11	52	Cloudy	Douglas	—	.01	11	52	Cloudy
Margate	0.3	—	11	52	Cloudy	Aldergrove	0.4	.01	12	54	Drizzle
Teignmouth	0.2	.02	12	54	Cloudy	Eskdalemuir	—	.20	10	50	Rain
Torquay	0.1	—	12	54	Cloudy	Prestwick	—	.22	12	54	Rain
Falmouth	0.5	.08	12	54	Drizzle	Abbotsinch	0.1	.20	12	54	Rain
Penzance	—	.30	12	54	Cloudy	Tiree	—	.59	10	50	Rain
Jersey	0.5	.02	12	54	Cloudy	Stornoway	—	.65	11	52	Drizzle
Guernsey	3.7	—	14	57	Sun ints	Lerwick	—	.24	8	46	Sleet
Scilly Isles	—	—	12	54	Cloudy	Wick	—	.36	9	48	Rain pm
Ilfracombe	—	.10	12	54	Cloudy	Kinloss	—	—	12	54	Rain
Tenby	—	.30	12	54	Rain	Dyce	0.2	.28	11	52	Rain pm
Anglesey	—	—	12	54	Cloudy	Leuchars	—	.19	11	52	Cloudy

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	s	21	70	Cairo	f	20	68	Las Palmas	s	23	73	Prague	sn	0	32
Alexandria	s	21	70	Cape Town	c	22	72	Lisbon	s	17	63	Reykjavik	c	2	36
Algiers	c	19	66	Cologne	r	7	45	Locarno	s	9	48	Rhodes	c	17	63
Amsterdam	c	9	48	Copenhagen	s	5	41	Luxembourg	c	0	32	Riyadh	f	24	75
Athens	s	18	64	Corfu	r	14	57	Madrid	s	11	52	Rome	s	15	59
Bahrain	s	23	73	Dublin	r	12	54	Majorca	f	18	64	Salzburg	sn	0	32
Barcelona	s	14	57	Dubrovnik	c	8	46	Malaga	s	20	68	Strasbourg	c	4	39
Beirut	s	23	73	Faro	s	22	72	Malta	f	18	64	Tangier	s	23	73
Belgrade	f	4	39	Florence	s	12	54	Milan	s	10	50	Tel Aviv	s	21	70
Berlin	c	4	39	Frankfurt	c	4	39	Moscow	c	1	34	Tenerife	f	24	75
Biarritz	s	10	50	Geneva	s	4	39	Munich	sn	0	32	Tokyo	r	8	46
Boulogne	c	10	50	Gibraltar	s	19	66	Naples	c	12	54	Valencia	s	18	64
Bordeaux	s	9	48	Innsbruck	c	2	36	Nice	s	15	59	Venice	s	9	48
Brussels	d	5	41	Jeddah	c	27	81	Oslo	f	−3	27	Warsaw	c	2	36
Budapest	f	5	41	Johannesburg	f	24	75	Paris	f	8	46	Zurich	s	3	37

